

Free tuition?

A Grade 8 student has won free tuition for a year.

5

Labour's loss

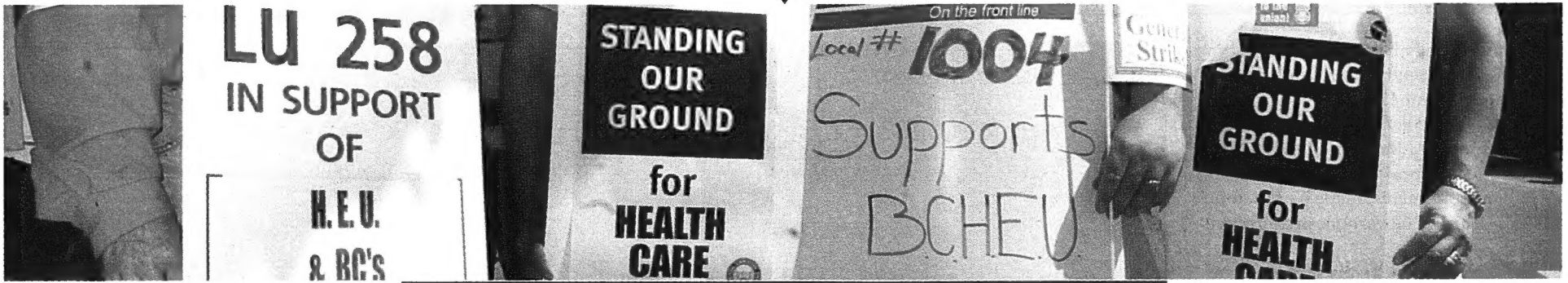
If health care workers in labour-friendly B.C. have been hit with a retroactive 15-per-cent pay cut and job losses, what might happen in Alberta?

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Marathon event

The Hooper clan makes family gatherings an endurance event.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

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University honours its top teachers

High marks for work in the class

By Richard Cairney

Jan Henderson remembers landing a leading role in a school play, but feeling too terrified to walk out on stage. Last week, the University of Alberta drama professor received an award for teaching students to do just that, and more.

Henderson was one of seven U of A professors whose superb teaching was recognized with the William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Sessional Teaching and the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

For her part, Henderson said the award is also a recognition of her own teaching mentors, including Miss Petersen, the Grade 7 English teacher who pushed her out from the wings and onto the stage.

"I was offstage in tears and she came up and asked me what was wrong. I said I couldn't go on stage," Henderson recalled. "She made me embrace the fear, and when I got out there, I loved it."

Through her renowned mask and clowning classes, Henderson helps her students become self-aware and teaches them to stop listening to self-criticisms that limit their potential. A student who helped nominate Henderson for the teaching award wrote that Henderson "has changed my way of thinking of acting, theatre and life."

"I do know that the mask and clown course is life-changing for some people," said Henderson. "It's about self-acceptance and self-appreciation. People often take that course when they are at a crossroads and don't know what to do with their lives."

Helping students with those big life decisions is sometimes what teaching is all about, said Dr. Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic).

Great teaching "translates into a zest for life . . . a sense of purpose," said Amrhein who, in presenting the teaching awards said he is "fiercely proud" of U of A teachers.

Amrhein said he remembers his Grade 4 teacher as one of the stronger influences in his life. Addressing children in the room who attended the event with relatives, Amrhein told them to keep a look-out for those few special teachers who stand out.



Drama professor Jan Henderson (seen above in her clown character, Fender) earned a William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Sessional Teaching during a special ceremony on campus to celebrate teaching.

"Watch out for those creative teachers in your life," he said. "You will recognize when you have a teacher who is different than most. You may have already encountered one of those special teachers."

Being one of those teachers means

being a good listener, said Dr. Laurie Mereu, a Rutherford Award recipient who teaches courses in endocrinology in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.

"I think I am a good listener, and I enjoy it when the students are enthusias-

tic and excited. It makes teaching fun," said Mereu, who came to the U of A in 1998 and earned the Outstanding Teacher Award in 2001 and 2002, was named Outstanding Group Leader for undergraduate teaching in 2002 and was recognized for outstanding teaching and contributions to medical education in 2002.

"I have always wanted to be a teacher. I was so excited when I found out I could come to the university and be a teacher."

Dr. Frank Robinson agrees that listening is an essential skill.

The Rutherford Award recipient added that being a good listener means you are available to students.

"It's important to be approachable and available and breaking boundaries that are stupid, like office hours," said Robinson, who teaches animal science and applied poultry science in the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics.

Teachers know they've done something right, he said, "when students realize

they have the power to do something and act on it."

Which brings us back to Miss Petersen who, in her way, didn't simply send a young frightened girl onto the stage, but steered Jan Henderson towards becoming one of the U of A's finest teachers.

Other Rutherford Award recipients were Dr. Tom Keating, who teaches political science in the Faculty of Arts, Dr. Amanda Montgomery, who teaches courses in elementary school music and musical pedagogy, Dr. David Wilson, who teaches courses in fluid mechanics, engineering design, environmental engineering, and measurement systems. Also receiving the Alexander Award was Loretta Amerongen, who teaches income tax and financial management accounting in the U of A School of Business. ■



Two deans appointed

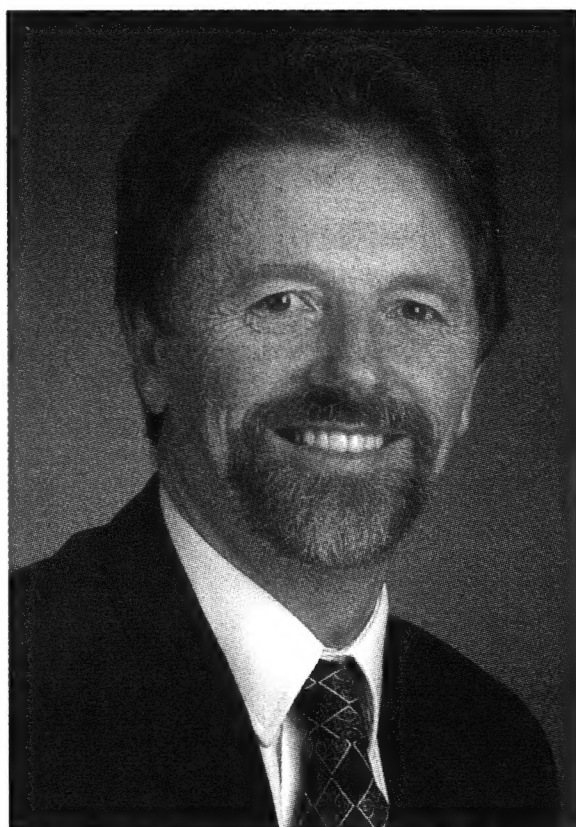
Gray extends appointment in Nursing, Kennelly takes office in Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics

By Cynthia Strawson and Sandra Halme

Dr. John Kennelly has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics for a five-year term and Genevieve Gray has been re-appointed Dean of the Faculty of Nursing for a one-year term.

Both appointments, made by the university's Board of Governors, are effective July 1.

Dr. Kennelly is currently professor and chair of the university's Department of Agricultural Food and Nutritional Science within the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics. During the last five years the department has succeeded in attracting more than \$20 million in funding to support research infrastructure enhancement. He leads a research group whose key areas of study are nutritional and genetic



Dr. John Kennelly

factors that influence the biological efficiency of milk synthesis and also its quality as a human food. His research program has contributed to improved nutritional and management strategies on commercial dairy farms, resulting in more efficient milk production and improved milk quality.

Kennelly succeeds Dr. Ian Morrison, who will return to teaching in the Faculty.

Dean Gray intends to retire from the U of A, yet has agreed to postpone this step in order to fulfill a one-year term allowing time to find a successor.

Gray has lead a number of initiatives during her tenure in nursing, including a significant expansion of undergraduate and graduate student spaces as well as the recruitment of 14 new academics. She has



Genevieve Gray

connected and reconnected the Faculty of Nursing to health-service partners and established strategic joint appointments and collaborative research with these organizations.

Gray has also implemented a more broadly based research support infrastructure which has lead to a more equitable distribution of resources to a wider group of faculty and lead to an increase in research productivity.

Kennelly said his Faculty faces exciting times.

"Agriculture and forestry are the two largest renewable resource sectors in Alberta. These two sectors are key components of the Provincial Life Sciences Strategy. Our Faculty is well placed to con-

tribute to the increased societal and governmental emphasis on health and wellness, as there is a growing awareness that we need to increase our investment in the maintenance of health rather than spending most of our health dollars on treating disease," he said.

"The Faculty has a tremendous impact on this province in the areas of agriculture, forestry, environment, and health and wellness. Along with that impact is an obligation to improve education and research in those areas, training the future leaders of these industries. We will harness the creative power of current AFHE staff and build excellence in areas of strategic importance through recruiting world leaders in their respective disciplines." ■

"We will harness the creative power of current AFHE staff and build excellence in areas of strategic importance through recruiting world leaders in their respective disciplines."

— Dr. John Kennelly

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Corporate Challenge team is out for blood

Blood donor challenge helps greater community

By Richard Cairney

If there were any further evidence required that you don't need to be an athlete to participate on the University of Alberta Corporate Challenge Team, it's this: the group is looking for blood donors as part of the city-wide annual games.

And the university community can do a lot better than it has in the past, says Toby-Anne Reimer, a programmer analyst with the Office of the Registrar and Student Awards who is heading up the U of A's Blood Donor Challenge team.

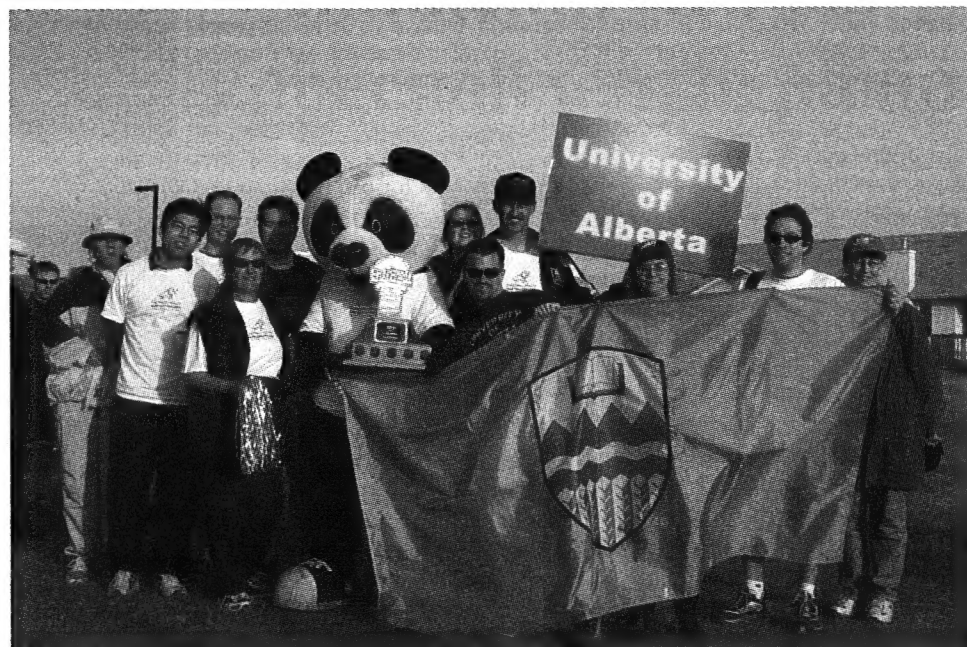
Points are assigned to each team – one point per donor and two points for every new blood donor. "We ended up with 91 (points) last year, which is kind of sad, given the university's population," said Reimer.

Ultimately, she added, the Blood Donor Challenge isn't about winning or losing, it's about helping others.

"It has more to do with boosting morale," said Reimer, who also heads up the U of A Corporate Challenge volleyball squad. "The points you get don't go towards the actual Corporate Challenge competition, it's separate. And it's really something that helps the greater community."

And playing a role in the greater community is just one part of what participating in the Corporate Challenge is about, says Val Hunter, a rehabilitation and worklife consultant with the Department of Human Resources who chairs the university's Corporate Challenge organizing committee.

"It's also an opportunity to participate



The U of A Corporate Challenge Team hopes to relive the glory during this spring's Corporate Challenge.

in healthy competition. It is a very fun event where people get to know other people from different areas on campus," she said.

"I have been very fortunate enough to get to know a lot of people on campus I might not otherwise have met, through working with the Corporate Challenge."

This year the U of A team has added a special cheer team to the mix. The Spirit Team will attend various Corporate Challenge events, cheering on university competitors and earning valuable Spirit Points for the university.

Hunter stressed that there is something

for everyone in the Corporate Challenge, regardless of your level of fitness. Events like horse shoe-throwing and billiards require their own skills, but for those who are interested in a more physically demanding sport, there are events like mountain biking and triathlon.

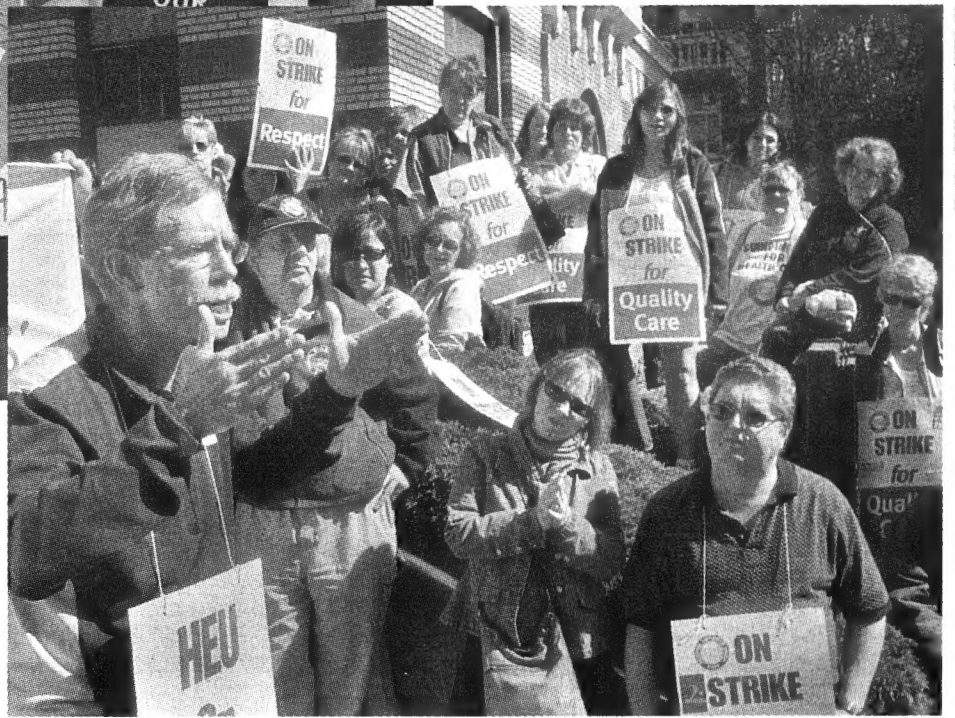
"Last year I competed in the power pull and the paper airplane competition and I had a blast," said Hunter.

The Corporate Challenge runs from May 25 – June 12. All university employees are eligible to participate. To register for an event, visit www.ualberta.ca/challenge or call 492-2781. ■



Ian Lindsay, The Vancouver Sun

Unions put on a united front in B.C. recently. The entire province was under threat of a general strike. The health workers were legislated back to work, were forced to accept a pay cut and the government won the right to contract out more health jobs.



Les Bazzo, The Vancouver Province

HEU leader Chris Allnut speaks to picketing health support workers outside of Vancouver's St. Paul's Hospital.

B.C.'s labour movement takes it on the chin

Aggressive government tactics don't faze veteran Alberta labour experts

By Fiona McNair

Short, but not so sweet.

That's how the recent strike action in British Columbia's health care sector might best be described. During nine days of interruptions in operating-room schedules, job action by hospital workers forced the cancellation of nearly 7,000 surgeries. Tens of thousands of diagnostic tests had to be postponed.

As the acrimonious labour dispute came to a boil last month, a province-wide shut down was threatened after several other unions pledged their support to the Hospital Employees Union (HEU). The province was thrown into a panic, garnering a great deal of media coverage. Parents wondered who would take care of their children – there would be no school or daycare. And what about getting to work? Not on public transit.

In the end, the labour relations dispute turned into a political battle of wills with the Campbell government ultimately getting most of what it wanted, including a rollback of 15 per cent in wages and benefits.

Yonatan Reshef, with the University of Alberta's School of Business, says the once-fervent view of British Columbia as a labour-friendly province is gone, replaced by a contagious sentiment first embraced by Premier Ralph Klein – cut, cut, cut.

"This wasn't a surprise to me," says the industrial relations expert. "Governments across Canada including Ontario, Alberta and now British Columbia have learned they can do whatever they want in industrial relations. They can change legislation, remove workers from bargaining units...as

long as the government enjoys public support, they can do it. That is my lesson from all of this."

WAS KLEIN AHEAD OF THE CURVE?

Reshef explains Alberta really set the model for privatization and cuts to the public sector.

"This was going on here a decade ago. Klein was definitely ahead of the curve. There are other examples, but he did it first."

In a move reminiscent of Alberta's tough talking premier, who recently made strong threats that he would put nurses in jail after the union started talking about strike action in December, British Columbia Premier Gordon Campbell, also chose to adopt a hard-nose stance. The fruits of Campbell's labour? Bill 37, a piece of back-to-work legislation that details the pay cuts as well as permission to contract out 600 more full-time equivalent positions – about 900 jobs. According to the HEU, this is a mere fraction of the total number of HEU jobs lost to the private sector. By mid-2006, 9,000 jobs will be contracted out, says the union.

Perhaps most surprising, was the legislative clause in Bill 37 making the cuts retroactive to April 1, 2004. Although the dispute had been brewing for more than a year, this part of the Campbell government's reaction is seen by some as being particularly vindictive. For others, the logic behind the move simply remains to be seen.

Heather Smith, president of the United Nurses of Alberta, points out many of

B.C.'s HEU workers are females with lower incomes to begin with. Though the government expects to save about \$200 million annually with the move, the UNA president says the cuts will likely have a trickle down effect on the province's economy.

"It isn't like these people are rich and are going to be taking their money and spending it offshore or something. These are people who would be spending most of what they earn in their local communities," she said. "This is cutting an incredible swath of destruction... tax cuts are really on the backs of working people, the working poor."

Smith says that, according to feedback from her union members, it has been very obvious that while Alberta might have been the leader in such cost cutting efforts, employers everywhere are closely monitoring the situation in British Columbia.

"The entire situation has made standing up to defend your contract, a criminal act... the government may think they have triumphed, but ultimately they will be the biggest loser in terms of voluntary commitment to the workplace," added Smith.

CUTS COULD HARM CAMPBELL

Pundits say plunging popularity polls put the B.C.'s premier's political career in serious jeopardy. There has even been talk Campbell will be a one-term premier, single-handedly responsible for a return to a New Democrat government. According to a poll commissioned by BCTV and Global conducted in the first week of May, 65 per cent of British Columbians disagree with the

B.C. Liberal government's handling of the dispute. In fact, 47 per cent polled said their opinion of the premier has deteriorated.

Perhaps more telling though, is the fact that 51 per cent of respondents in this poll also took issue with the way the HEU handled things. Reshef says the results of the B.C. battle isn't so much about unions suddenly changing, becoming smaller, or suffering from a lack of strong leadership.

"This situation is all about a new breed of government in Canada that is here to stay... I think everyone appreciates people who work in the public sector. But there is also a sentiment that we must balance the budget. That it is good for us all in the long term, including the provinces. There is a notion we all have to make sacrifices, period."

ADDING UP THE COSTS

And the surrender isn't yet over, points out Smith. There is the not-so-small matter of fines against the HEU levied by the court. While the government is literally counting up what the strike action cost them, in order to submit a bill of sorts to the court, unions across the country are trying to support the HEU.

Smith says her executive just voted to give \$20,000, roughly \$1 per UNA member, to help offset anticipated fines. It wasn't so long ago that the UNA was forced to cough up \$400,000 for their own 1988 job action.

"Strikes are never about what some group did or didn't get on the picket line... there are so many more costs than just that, for all of us." ■

Sessional instructor struggles with work conditions

New rules are a move in the wrong direction

By Mark Morris

Long ago, I learned that in an exploitive situation, it is not merely the exploiter that has responsibility, but also those who know about the exploitation, and do nothing. Many years later, I find myself caught up in an exploitive situation, now about to verge on the abusive, perpetrated by this – our – university, and I have come to realize that actually not many people do really know about it, and those who do find it much easier to turn a blind eye or mutter some excuse. Silence should not be an option, and so here, as unemotionally as I can, I am seeking to lay out the facts of that exploitation, so that no one in the university can claim they did not know.

I am a 'full-time' sessional instructor in the English Department, now in my fifth year of teaching. I came to teaching late, and discovered my vocation in doing so, though I continue to have a not undistinguished record internationally in artistic fields. I am one of a number of such vocational teachers in the department, some of whom have been teaching there 10 or 15 years. We are critical to the operations of the department: we form over a quarter of the 'full-time' teaching staff, faculty included, and without us the department as it is now structured would be unable to continue its activities. In terms of a wider applicability, we are important to all Faculties – the students in my children's literature classes come from all Faculties, and of course first year English courses embrace the entire university. We are not just out-of-graduate-school budding professors – we are experienced, committed, and often innovative teachers, many of whom have some of the highest student

approval ratings in the department.

These are the conditions of our employment. We are hired for eight months of the year, teaching undergraduate courses. We teach one more half-course in that time than the faculty, though in practice this means teaching considerably more pupils, since undergraduate classes are so large. If we have a PhD, as most do, we are paid \$34,000 for that teaching. That remuneration never goes up (unless the lowest assistant professor rate, to which it is linked, goes up), there is never any increase for long service, for quality of work, for anything. We do get health benefits (for that eight-month period only), and some expense allowance, but we do not get pensions. Since the faculty are not normally allowed to teach spring or summer sessions, we are usually offered one extra course in that period. However, there are no contracts (and no health coverage) given for those spring or summer courses, a situation I confirmed with the Provost's office last week, probably because by being hired on a contract, we would then be deemed morally eligible for a pension, since we will have worked for 10 months of the year.

We therefore are laid off in April. In the spring, if we are lucky, we might know if we are rehired for the following year; in practice, for example, I did not know this last year until late in August. A little dance is played here: the department claims it does not know how many courses it needs to offer in the coming year, but every year, for a very long time, it has to rehire those teachers, as it well knows. We of course have no union (we're not allowed one), and I have repeatedly heard sessionals state that

they are not prepared to complain because they simply won't be rehired.

Why do we do it? There are, I think, three basic reasons. The first is that almost all of us have some external reason why we need to stay in the Edmonton area, and the best pupils are found at this university. The second is that the historic opportunities to eventually join the faculty are no longer there. The third is that we are vocational teachers, putting that before research. Of course we do research – we have to teach well – but we have to do it unpaid in those four months off.

This is an historical situation arrived at by default. Full-time sessionals used to be hired on an occasional basis to cover for faculty, as indeed still happens in many U of A departments. In many English departments across North America, this gradually developed into sessionals forming a major component of the full-time teaching staff, without changing their conditions of employment. All across North America this has slowly come to be recognized as exploitive, and the situation rectified. Lethbridge only hires sessionals on a full 12-month, long-term contract with pensions. Calgary has converted its most experienced sessionals into faculty members with special teaching responsibilities. Many other Canadian universities have, or are in the process of, appointing such sessionals to positions of lecturer. In this university both Nursing and the Biology Department, to name but two, have offered proper, modern, Canadian, conditions of employment.

Not the Faculty of Arts. The university is now, from 2004/2005, not alleviating the lot of the 'full-time' sessional there, but

actually making it more onerous. The dean of Arts has decreed, against the English Department's wishes, that to be defined as 'full-time', sessionals will now have to teach one more half course than at present, with no extra pay. There is a very good reason for doing this, and it is an odious one. Last year, the dean attempted to insist that there would be no full-time sessionals; commendably, the English department resisted. By increasing the requirement by one half class, there will not be enough classes to keep those sessionals at full-time; they will have to be hired on a part-time basis. This means that, if I teach next year the same courses that I teach this year – do exactly the same work – because of the part-time fee structure, my salary will drop from \$34,000 to \$25,000, I will get no health coverage, and my expense allowance will be taken away. The bottom line in the Faculty of Arts will look considerably better, without having any battles with faculty or staff, and with the full knowledge that sessionals are not in a position to do anything about it.

I have not written about the mental anguish of all this, nor the waking up in the middle of the night in despair, nor the material hardship. Nor have I written about the very large number of students who have told me how important what I have taught them has been to their lives. But now I have to decide – assuming anyone asks me back after this article – whether I am prepared to be further exploited for the extraordinary fulfilment of teaching those very students. At least I haven't kept silent. And perhaps there really are good men and women true who, on reading this, will not keep silent either. ■

Waging war is easy...

Book gets into the nitty-gritty of building peace

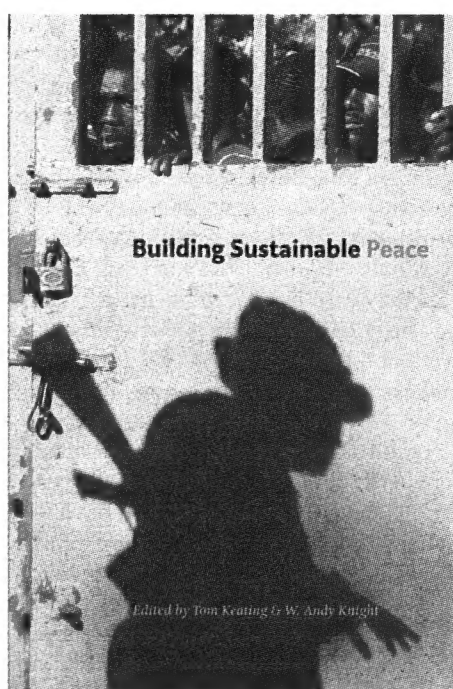
By Gilbert A. Bouchard

As persistent hostilities and military unrest continue to plague Kosovo, Afghanistan, Haiti, Somalia and Iraq, world leaders are discovering that peace is infinitely harder to build than war is to wage.

The United States is learning this the hard way. Turns out that routing an inferior army and unseating an already shaky regime in Iraq was endlessly easier than trying to impose a semblance of order on an antagonistic state. Wars may be won with well-trained troops and high-tech military toys, but significant peace can be lost by dint of poor pre-conflict planning and a lack of plans for post-conflict reconciliation.

According to University of Alberta political science professors Dr. Thomas Keating and Dr. W. Andy Knight, editors of U of A Press' *Building Sustainable Peace* (439 pages, \$39.95, co-published with United Nations University Press), winning the military component of the war in Afghanistan or Iraq is only the beginning of the complicated task of not only winning the peace, but working to build a long-term sustainable peace.

To that end, the well-versed duo assembled an impressive roster of international experts to outline a wide-array of practical and theoretical bon mots about comprehensive and long-term peace building ranging from the on-the-ground experiences of David Beer (an RCMP officer who created the Canadian five year bilateral policing development assistance plan for Haiti) to an essay by former Edmonton



Journal writer Satya Das, to papers penned by leading academics in the field.

"The idea for the book arose out of a symposium held at the U of A in the spring of 2000, coinciding with the second Annual Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights delivered by Madam Justice Louise Arbour (who had served as the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda)," said Keating, underlining that it seemed a perfect event to supplement with a gathering focusing on post-conflict resolution.

Calling together experts on the subject from Europe and North America, the idea behind the event was to include as much practical experience as possible, as well as reasoned academic research. "When it came time to pull the core papers presented at the symposium, we were able to say 'what's missing?' and fill the gaps that remained, like the role of NGOs and gender issues," Keating adds.

While the book doesn't directly address the situation in Iraq, the subject matter is still painfully "topical and comprehensive," and not the typical material you'd find in a political science textbook, says Knight.

"In Iraq the US had obviously not thought through what you need to do after the conflict is over to build the peace and were working too much in the short-term," he says, adding that the short-sighted behaviour is a common concern among Western governments constrained by five-year electoral cycles and "the urgency of the present".

The challenge is how does one properly plan and fund decade-spanning peace building projects and the chore of building a society from the bottom up, which includes the dismantling of "cultures of violence" on top of the physical disarmament of hostile armies.

"Peace building is a multidimensional experience much like conducting an orchestra," says Knight, noting that you need to recognize and address tensions between major players on the ground from the local leadership to NGOs and the military.

"You're going to have tensions there, but you'll also need to have the military in place to protect the NGOs as they do their work and then you'll need a proper exit strategy," he says.

"When you intervene you're responsible for the whole country and you need to start planning long before that point. You can't get away with peace building on a shoestring."

Knight adds that citizens and advocacy groups need to hold governments accountable for promises they make about developing peace building resources. For example, it recently came to light that Canada had still not made good on a promise for funds to Sierra Leone to assist in the transition and training of former child soldiers made in 2000.

"It was a relatively piddling amount, but significant for those involved and a good example of how promises can fall between the cracks," he said. ■

folio letters
to the editor

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Student wins free tuition

City of the Future helps mark city and university's anniversaries

By Bev Betkowski

Cameron Pinto was stunned with the early high school graduation present he received last week at the University of Alberta.

The Grade 8 student at Parkview Junior High School was at a loss for words when his name was drawn for a year's free tuition to the U of A. Fortunately, he's got four years to think about how he'll spend it.

"I can't even think straight," he said, adding after a minute's thought, "I think my parents will be excited." Pinto, who said he might study engineering, was one of 500 Grade 8 students who converged on the Butterdome to take part in the U of A's City of the Future competition May 5.

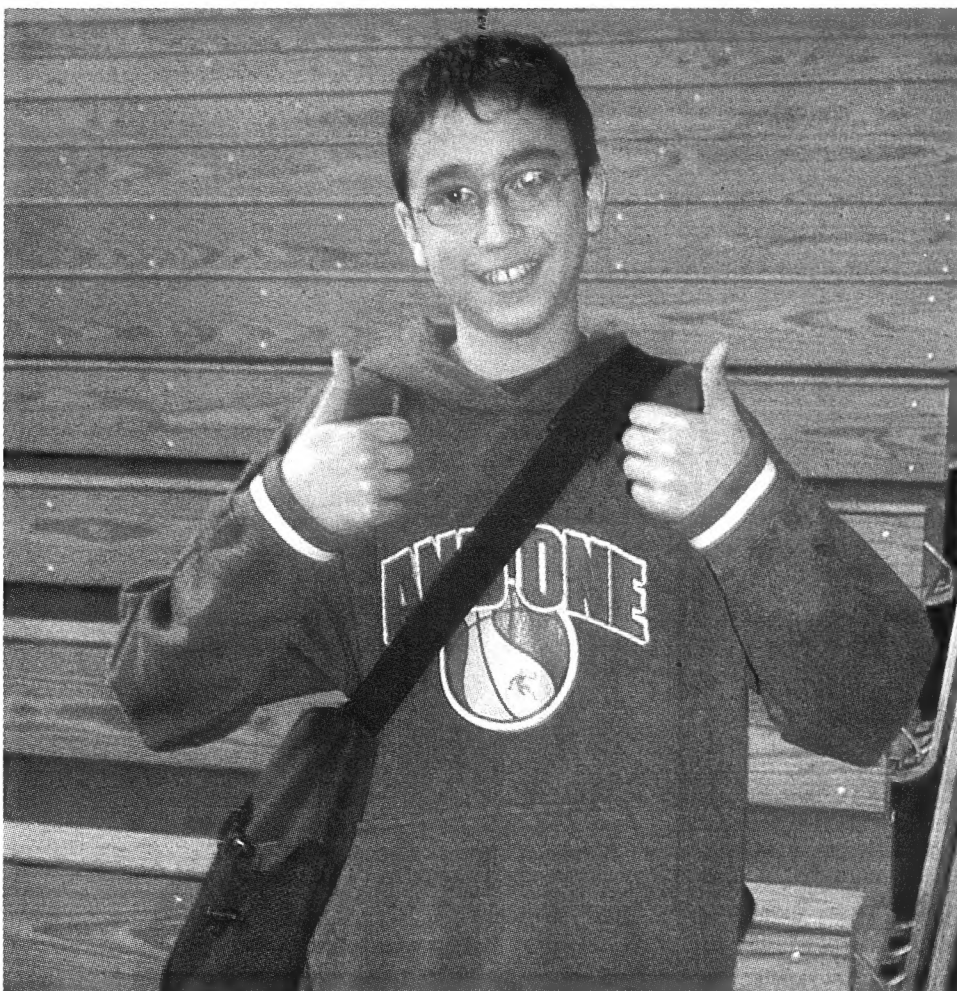
The event was organized by the U of A and its senate to celebrate Edmonton's 100th birthday in 2004. The free tuition won by Pinto was one way to mark the university's own centenary in 2008 – the year Pinto and his classmates will be ready to enroll in post-secondary education.

The U of A values its strong relationship with its home city, said Chancellor John Ferguson. "By engaging our youth in this celebration, and by encouraging them to think creatively and strategically about our 'City of the Future,' we hope to reward innovative thinking and engender pride in Edmonton."

The projects created by 19 Edmonton junior high schools for City of the Future touched on all aspects of life 50 years from now, including the environment, transportation, recreation, home décor and even fashion, with teenagers decked out in space-age dresses of plastic and foil that shimmered and blinked with lights.

For her project, Sahevish Hussain chose a lighthearted exploration of what the Edmonton Oilers venue might be like in 50 years. The Parkview student designed an ice arena with a thicker blue line "to help prevent icing" and predicted a name change for the Oilers' home. "Instead of Rexall Place, it will be Champions Arena."

A hockey fan herself, Hussain also



Cameron Pinto has won one year of free tuition at the U of A as part of the U of A-City of Edmonton City of the Future program. The Grade 8 Parkview Junior High School says he may study engineering when he enrolls at the U of A in four years.

designed arena seats boasting built-in TV screens for watching the game and ordering food. Her seats of the future also have neck rests and ottomans for comfort. "You're there for 3-1/2 hours, and your butt really hurts," she said.

Edmonton's mushrooming population and shrinking green space helped Cole Zmurchok and Mackenzie Perras launch the Rec Box, a blue-tiled, one-stop solution to personal fitness.

The Parkview Junior High School students, who won first place in their category, designed the box with a pneumatic rubber floor and energy-efficient walls and lighting. The facility would be equipped with a computer and satellite links to allow for activities like virtual golf, dancing, swimming and even team sports. The project comes complete with a 'Rec Box for Dummies' user guide.

"Obesity rates in North America are

soaring and recreation is viewed by many people as a hassle," said Perras. The Rec Box eliminates the need to drive, and as more people move into condominium complexes, the space-saving facility could be used to efficiently serve concentrated populations without using a lot of space, he added. "You don't have to have a 20-acre golf course."

Perras liked taking part in the U of A event; he had hoped to win the free tuition as he plans to study medical sciences. "The U of A is world-renowned for that."

The City of the Future competition gave students a valuable glimpse of what the university can offer them, said Randy Radmanovich, a teacher at Ecole Kenilworth Junior High School, and a U of A graduate himself.

"When you're young, there are so many doors – this allows them to choose a door," he said.

As part of the City of the Future program, the students toured the campus last winter and spoke with U of A experts in cyberculture, English and education before beginning work on their projects.

The U of A gave out first, second and third prizes in six categories: the arts, math/science, career and technology studies, social studies/language arts, ethics/environmental and outdoor education, and physical education/health and life skills.

City councillor Jane Batty was impressed by the "absolutely phenomenal" projects she saw, and told the students she'd be taking some of their ideas back to her colleagues for consideration as they map Edmonton's future for real.

"I can't wait to bring forward some of the ideas I saw. Our future is bright, and I can see it is going to be in very good hands."

The students' winning displays can be seen Oct. 8 at the City of Edmonton Centennial Celebration at Stanley Milner Library. ■

U of A has high profile in list of city's top 100 citizens

University plays vital role in city's history

By Geoff McMaster

When the City of Edmonton released its list of 100 Edmontonians of the Century recently the University of Alberta's role in the community was obvious: more than 30 names on the list have strong connections to the U of A.

Announced during a public ceremony at City Hall, the list reads like a who's who of the university's history, starting with U of A founder Alexander Rutherford and its first president Henry Marshall Tory, and touching on luminaries in every decade of the 20th century.

"It's incredible, I can't believe, hearing the names of the people read out and many of whom I know and have admired, that I'm one of them," said chemistry professor Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour, founding member of the U of A's Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology program (WISEST).

"It's good for the university and it's great for my department...I have to go back and give a safety seminar this afternoon; I'm not sure I'll be back on the Earth or not."

Other celebrated Edmontonians who attended the event include:

- Dr. David Schindler, U of A biologist and international expert on water issues who sounded the alarm on acid rain in the 1970s;
- Dr. Bob Steadward, founder of the U of A's Steadward Centre and a key figure in creating the Paralympic Games;
- Gary McPherson, chairman of the premier's council on the status of persons with disabilities and lecturer in

the school of business, who has spent a lifetime promoting the rights of disabled persons;

- Dr. Shirley Stinson, U of A nursing professor emerita who was the first nurse west of Winnipeg to hold a doctorate;
- Walter Kaasa, U of A drama graduate after whom a theatre was named in the Jubilee Auditorium.

"I'm a little bit shell shocked," said Schindler, still getting used to the news. "I just got back from holiday and thought, 'Oh, I have to check my e-mail.' One of them was from my secretary saying I was supposed to be at City Hall for this on Monday. I wasn't even going to come into the city today."

The list was finalized after adjudicators deliberated for almost 100 hours over some 900 nominations. Contributions were judged based on their significance, personal commitment, duration and the extent to which they directly affect the Edmonton community. However the committee also took into consideration contributions that had regional, national and international impact.

"The 100 Edmontonians of the Century represent many of the best the city has to offer," said Ralph Young, a member of the U of A Board of Governors who is also chair of the Edmonton 2004 Celebration Committee. "They have made lasting and significant contributions to the fields of sport, culture, business, arts, politics, volunteerism, science, medicine and education."



Top 100 Edmontonians Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour, Dr. David Schindler, Dr. Bob Steadward, Dr. Shirley Stinson, Walter Kaasa and Gary McPherson.

Some of the more familiar names from the U of A's history include Dr. James Bertram Collip, co-discoverer of insulin; Dr. Karl Clark, who devised a method for separating oil from tar sands; Dr. Raymond Lemieux, the first to synthesize sucrose; Dr. John Orrell, who was instrumental in the restoration of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, England; Deputy Prime Minister Anne McLellan, a former U of A law school professor; and Dr. James Shapiro, co-developer of the Edmonton

Protocol, a breakthrough treatment for type 1 diabetes.

Hearing the names and their accomplishments "just brought chills to my spine when you think about what they've done for this city, province and country," said Mayor Bill Smith. "It's just wonderful."

A complete list of names can be obtained from the Edmonton 2004 website. They will also appear in a commemorative book for Edmonton's 100th birthday, to be released next October. ■

Nursing teacher, researcher, earns lifetime achievement award

Dr. Phyllis Giovannetti has left her mark on nursing

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

The biggest thrill associated with being awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses (AARN) is the tangible show of respect of your peers, says Dr. Phyllis Giovannetti.

"It's extraordinarily humbling to be selected by your peers for this honour," the retiring University of Alberta professor and former associate dean in the Faculty of Nursing said.

Giovannetti, whose impressive four-decade career has seen her co-chair the AARN Task Force on Increasing Direct Access to the Services of Registered Nurses and serve as president for the Canadian Nursing Research Interest Group, has worked for the association throughout her professional career and is a past president of the association.

Raised and trained as a nurse in Calgary, Giovannetti moved to Edmonton in 1964 and started a phenomenal career that boasts a body of research and academic work that has left a significant mark on her profession and health care in general.

Subsequently moving to Montreal to take her BN from McGill University, and to the United States to earn her ScD from The Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, this well-rounded academic has worked as a consultant for a variety of organizations around the world, including the National League for Nursing, the National Institutes of Health, and the World Health Organization, as well as serving as a U of A-based academic and researcher since the early 1980s.

Giovannetti's research sweeps across the realm of nursing and medical delivery, including ground-breaking studies of patient classification systems for nurse

staffing, quality and cost of nursing care, an exploration into violence and abuse in the (nursing) workplace, and an investigation into the impact of health care restructuring on nurses and patient outcomes (a collaborative endeavour with other investigators from the United States, United Kingdom and Germany and three Canadian provinces).

"We're connecting the work being done by nurses to mortality rates," she said of the latter project. "We're discovering that when you don't have the right number of nurses and the right kinds of nurses, mortality rates will increase. Ultimately we're showing that medical services delivery is not just about technology, big hospitals and doctors, but the reality is that when people are going into a hospital, they are going in for nursing care."

A proponent of multi-disciplinary approaches to medical service delivery, Giovannetti helped develop a multi-disciplinary course at the U of A that sees members of all the university's health science programs study together and learn to better communicate between their respective disciplines. She believes that the future health of Canada's health care system depends on greater co-operation and collaboration and not "a tweak here and there or adding costs onto the consumer."

"I see less hierarchy in the delivery of health care with a move towards nurses

"We're discovering that when you don't have the right number of nurses and the right kinds of nurses, mortality rates will increase."

— Dr. Phyllis Giovannetti



Dr. Phyllis Giovannetti has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses.

being more independent practitioners and being less task-oriented," said Giovannetti who received the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1991 and was named Woman of the Year in Health, Science, and Technology by the Edmonton YWCA in 1992.

"There's a lot of efficiency in collaborative projects (including increasing the role of nursing in the delivery of health care),

but to make the needed changes we need the will of decision makers as well as structural and legislative changes to put these new paradigms in place.

"At the moment there are lots of changes taking place in little steps," she says, underlining that she intends to continue her research work in the areas of workplace issues and health care restructuring after her retirement from teaching and administrative work. ■

Mothers know best, study suggests

And they should report talk to professionals about infant behaviour

By Ryan Smith

A new study out of the University of Alberta provides evidence – if any more was needed – that nobody knows babies better than their own mothers. It also suggests that assistance in parenting "difficult" babies may be one way to decrease later problems.

According to the study, if mothers experienced parenting stress because their infants were easily distracted during the first year of life, this was the best predictor that mothers would also perceive behaviour problems when their child reached grade school.

"When mothers perceived their own babies were distractible, had more difficulty concentrating and paying attention, for example, this was the best predictor that mothers would report that their child had behaviour problems at age seven," said Dr. Karen Benzie, lead author of the study and an assistant professor of nursing at the University of Calgary.

Benzies conducted this research under the supervision of Dr. Margaret Harrison, a professor of nursing at the U of A, while Benzies was a PhD student here. The research was published recently in the journal *Public Health Nursing*.

Both Benzies and Harrison say the results of the study are important as a message to mothers to discuss their concerns about their babies' distractibility with professionals. Doing so may prevent future behaviour problems, such as being aggressive, being defiant towards adults, and being inattentive.



Dr. Margaret Harrison and Dr. Karen Benzie: mother knows best.

"This research shows that mothers are aware of problems early, suggesting that if the problems can be dealt with when the child is an infant or toddler, then it may not get worse in the future, and no one is better positioned to detect these problems than a mom," Benzies said.

Benzies and Harrison said that if a mother or father is experiencing parenting

stress because of distractible behaviour in their infant, they should discuss it with a family physician or a nurse at any community health centre.

"There are measures parents can take, such as watching their babies' non-verbal cues and helping infants transition more slowly from one activity to another, that can reduce stress for both themselves and

"Our research suggests that mothers are aware of problems early in the child's life, and they can get help that may prevent some types of behaviour problems from developing down the road."

— Dr. Karen Benzie

their babies. Health professionals such as doctors, nurses or psychologists can provide great support in this area," Benzies added.

Other research has shown that about half of the children who demonstrate behaviour problems in their pre-school years grow out of them by the time they reach grade school. But some children continue to disobey their parents, hit other children and damage toys, and Benzies and Harrison believe that parents can take steps to reduce the chances of this happening.

"If a parent is stressed by characteristics of their child, we want them to know that there are resources out there," Benzies added. "Our research suggests that mothers are aware of problems early in the child's life, and they can get help that may prevent some types of behaviour problems from developing down the road." ■

Top 40 winner has a certain chemistry

Jillian Buriak cited as one of Canada's rising stars

By Richard Cairney

When you consider her many achievements, you can't help but wonder how Dr. Jillian Buriak, named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40, accomplishes as much as she does.

Buriak joined the University of Alberta last year to teach chemistry and to lead the materials and interfacial chemistry group at the National Research Council's National Institute of Nanotechnology, based at the U of A. Born and raised near Toronto, Buriak had previously been at Purdue University and the Scripps Research Institute.

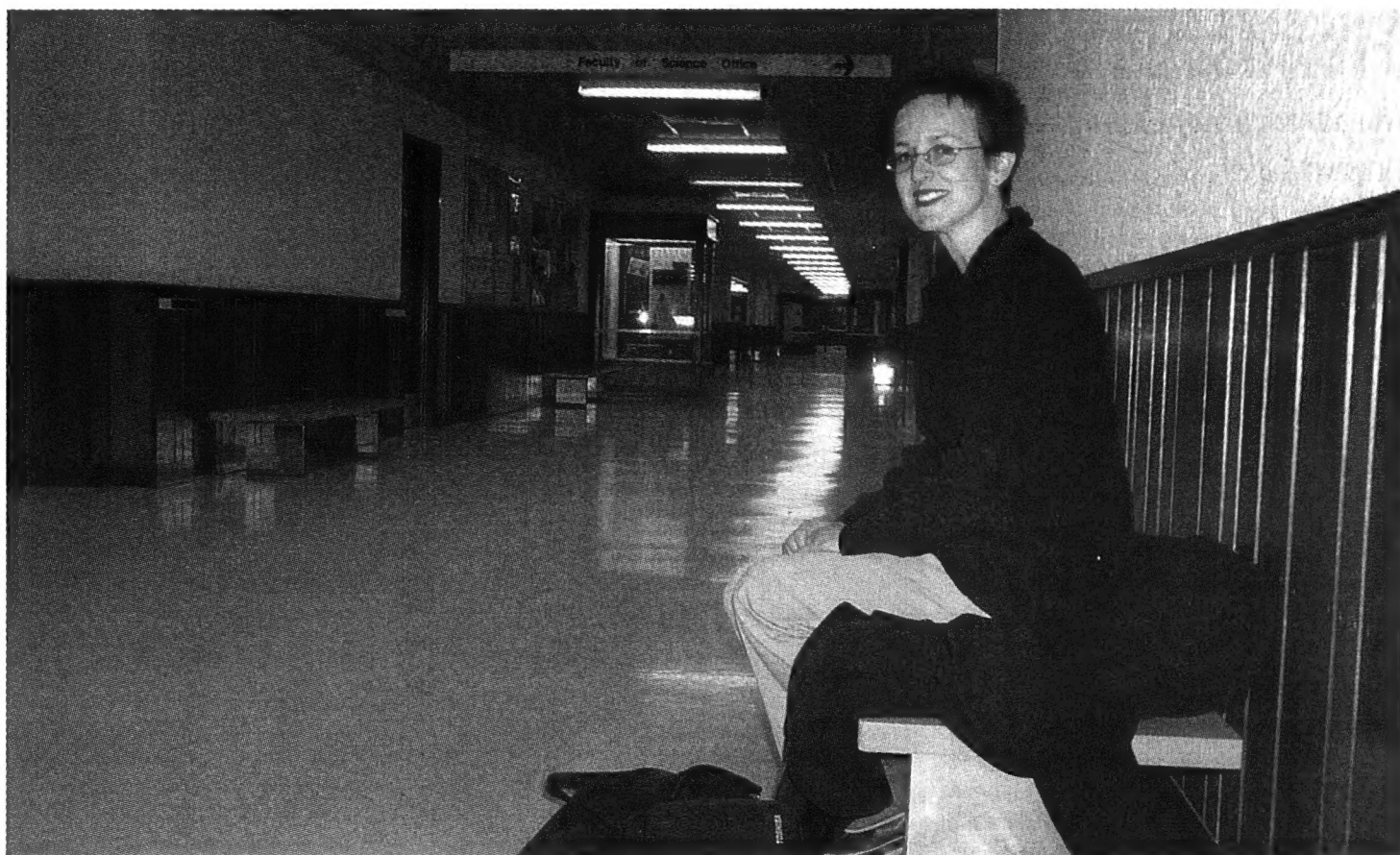
Buriak, 36, is the author of 38 scientific papers and book chapters, and holds six patents. She has earned several prestigious teaching and research awards, most notably the American Chemical Society Pure Chemistry Award, in 2003.

"That award covers all areas of chemistry so it is an incredibly intense competition," said Dr. Martin Cowie, chair of the U of A Department of Chemistry. "You run down the list of winners and it reads like a who's who of chemistry. The people on this award are the people who are the leaders in their respective areas and a number of these people have gone on to win Nobel prizes."

But being named to the Top 40 list, Buriak said, is a unique honour. Canada's Top 40 Under 40 is a national program founded and managed by The Caldwell Partners, an executive search firm, to honour Canadians who have reached a significant level of success but have not yet reached the age of 40.

"I think it's a really nice idea," she said. "I think the point is that they want to get all 40 of us into a room so we can meet and share ideas."

And Buriak planned to take advantage of that opportunity when the award recipients met in Ottawa. Buriak, whose research on the use of organometallic and inorganic chemistry on silicon surfaces is leading to advances in molecular electronics, is already collaborating on the creation of nanodevices with University of



Dr. Jillian Buriak has been named as one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40.

Calgary electrical and computing engineer Dr. Ted Sargent, also named to the Top 40 group. So she planned on introducing herself to pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Peter Dirks, from the University of Toronto, Dr. David Jaffray, head of radiation physics at Princess Margaret Hospital and cardiologist Dr. Shamir Metha, from McMaster University.

"Sometimes you'll think 'Oh – radiation physics? I don't know anything about that.' But then you talk to the person and find out that they need something you can easily provide them with."

Buriak welcomes the fact that such conversations may ultimately mean even more work, although you might think she's

already got enough on her plate. Buriak and her husband, Dr. Hicham Fenniri, also of the Department of Chemistry and NINT, are both world-renowned chemists and their time is in high demand. Buriak has been travelling almost every week this year, but manages to balance work and home life.

The couple's children, aged two and four, "have also racked up a lot of frequent flyer points," said Buriak, who credits much of her success, and her ability to balance her home and work life, to her hard-working postdoctoral fellows and graduate and undergraduate students.

"I've just had really good students and postdocs," she said. "They are the ones

doing the work in the labs."

Cowie says that kind of support is essential, but quickly adds that Buriak brings a certain, well, chemistry, to the field.

"First and foremost, yes, she is incredibly talented. This is an incredible hire for Canada," he said. But she also has boundless energy, and an uncanny ability to transmit her enthusiasm to others. She has a knack for clarity, for simplicity and she has an amazing ability to communicate effectively with experts and non-experts. You sit in a talk by Jillian and the experts are in awe of the science and the non-experts understand to a significant degree what the science means." ■

University receives \$1.5 million for cancer research

Canadian Cancer Society contributions will boost promising research

By Geoff McMaster

Promising research from the University of Alberta on breast cancer and on designing better anti-cancer drugs received \$1.5 million in support from the Canadian Cancer society.

Spread over five years, the money was awarded to Dr. Mark Glover (\$714,000) in the U of A Department of Biochemistry and to Dr. James Young (\$750,000) in the Department of Physiology. These are among 66 grants totalling \$47 million that the society is investing in cancer research across the country this year.

Glover's research focuses on a breast cell protein called BRCA1. In a healthy cell, the protein is responsible for repairing routine damage to DNA, stopping cells from becoming cancerous. Glover says it is not yet known exactly how this protein works, or which cell changes are associated with it.

"If you see a change in the gene, it's difficult to tell whether or not that change is a normal polymorphism – that is, a normal change that isn't going to affect the function or cause you any problems down the road – or a mutation that's going to give you an increased risk for breast cancer," Glover said.

Glover, a Canada Research Chair in Molecular Biology, has been studying the protein's three-dimensional structure to better understand its function. In 2001 he published a crucial first piece of structural information, which has already helped doctors improve diagnosis of breast cancer.

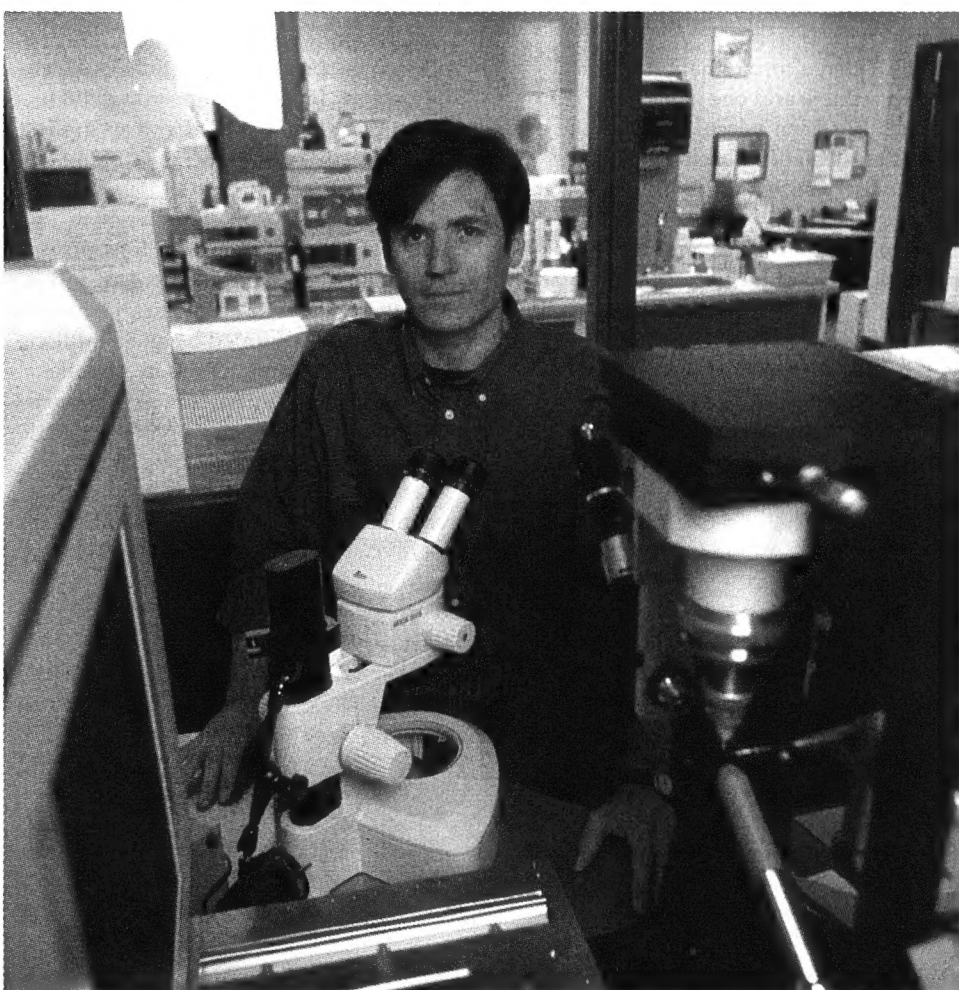
More recently, he demonstrated that the protein works in conjunction with another protein, operating as a complex.

"This is another big piece of the puzzle," said Glover. "It starts to not only show the structure of the protein, but what it's doing in the cell." The protein appears to "play a co-ordinator role, bringing in other proteins that directly fix damage (to DNA)...so if you have a mutation that's causing cancer, it's basically knocked out the normal function of BRCA1."

The discovery will improve diagnosis even further, he adds, making it possible to draw links between certain kinds of cell mutations and the risk of developing breast cancer. Glover is quick to point out, however, that it is too early to talk about treatments or cures, but that his team is "definitely making advances."

Young is working on a class of drugs called nucleoside analogs, used to treat leukemia, other cancers and certain viral diseases. In order to work effectively, the drugs must enter cancer cells, passing through a membrane to work against specific molecules.

Young's group is working on a type of protein called CNTs, which carry these drugs into cancer cells. As with Glover's research, Young is also examining the structure of the protein to better understand its function. In recent years, he has studied and described three CNT proteins responsible for the three main mechanisms by which nucleoside analogs enter human cells. ■



Dr. Mark Glover has been awarded \$714,000 from the Canadian Cancer Society, supporting his research into breast cancer prevention. The society also awarded Dr. James Young \$750,000 to continue his work on nucleoside analogs, used to treat leukemia, other types of cancer and some viruses.

Fitness is a family affair

Hooper family gatherings run on and on...

By Richard Cairney

It makes sense that students in Peter Hooper's statistics classes would be analysing numbers from marathon finish times. But those students probably have no idea that among those numbers they're crunching are running times set by their professor – and most of his extended family – whose motto may well be 'the family that gets together, uh, sweats together.'

During the first weekend of May, for example, Peter, director of the statistics centre in the U of A Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences, ran the Adidas Vancouver International Marathon along with his brother, Dr. Richard Hooper, who teaches in the Department of Oncology, and Ione Hooper, Richard's wife, head of reference services at the Rutherford Library.

But the Hoopers do things in a big way – it isn't really a marathon with just three family members. The trio was joined by Richard and Ione's children, Emma and Chris, and his wife Karen Gawne. Everyone of the runners is a U of A alumnus except Richard and Ione's daughter Erin, who is working towards a BFA in painting.

The family's interest in running began several years ago. When Richard was studying at the U of A, he used to use the running track around the Clare Drake Arena. Running fell by the wayside, but Ione and Richard's children signed their parents up in a clinic on how to run 10 km. Little did the younger Hoopers know they'd soon be running for hours on end with their parents.

"We had no idea we were going to get sucked into this too," joked Emma. "We were looking for something for them to do together that would be cool and active and



The running Hooper family Peter, Ione and Richard (on the left), daughter Emma (back centre), son Peter, daughter-in-law Karen Gawne and daughter Erin (front).

fit their lifestyles and busy schedule. But I'm not even sure why we chose running."

"It was a major move for me to go from running zero kilometres to running 10," said Ione.

With Peter joining in, the brothers' first

race was the Edmonton Half Marathon in 2000. The following year, they were joined by Richard's son Chris in the Edmonton Marathon, which followed the same course used in the IAAF World Championships.

"It was really neat," said Richard.

"How often do you get to run right down the middle of Jasper Ave., unless the Oilers have won the Stanley Cup?"

The Hoopers all meet every Sunday morning at the Kinsmen Sport Centre. But they don't necessarily run together – the family breaks up into groups based on different levels of ability. And Ione eventually felt the urge to step up and run half marathons too.

"Every Sunday everyone who can does a long run, and then we meet for brunch," Ione said. "I started running partly for fitness and partly because these people are over for brunch every Sunday, and I was just cooking for them all the time. It's a way of being supportive, but..."

Keeping the family running together is a priority for Peter too. His worst marathon was in Ottawa in 2002, when illness prevented him from establishing a qualifying time to run in the Boston Marathon the following year. Both Richard and Chris had qualified. Peter then ran the Kelowna Marathon in order to complete a qualifying time.

"I basically trained for two marathons that year," he said.

The following year the three ran the Boston Marathon, a race Peter describes as his "second worst" due to unusually warm temperatures on the day of the race.

But the experience was unforgettable, said Richard. "At the start of the race you look ahead and you see this wave of people moving on, and you aren't going anywhere. Then everyone starts walking and the wave comes back to you and you start to run."

"Only tall runners will ever see that," adds Ione. ■

National athletics coach named

Kevin Tyler heads up university-based centre

By Jane Hurly and Bev Betkowski

Kevin Tyler, a former national team track athlete and one of Canada's top coaches, has been selected to head the new Canadian Athletics Coaching Centre at the University of Alberta.

Tyler, currently sports marketing manager for running at Nike Canada and past coach to a number of international class athletes, takes up his appointment in September. He was named to the position by the university and by the 2001 World Championships in Athletics Legacy Foundation Board.

A former scholarship track athlete at Simon Fraser University and Canadian bobsledder at the 1988 Olympics, Tyler has coached a number of elite athletes including Shane Niemi, a Canadian 400m record holder and 2002 Commonwealth Games silver medallist. He has also worked at the grassroots level to guide international Olympians through the International Olympic Committee's Solidarity Program.

"This position is the culmination of a career spent touching every facet of athletics," said Tyler. "I have had the good fortune to work with a number of positive mentors in my employment with organizations like BC Athletics, Athletics Canada and Nike Canada. I hope to use these experiences to help build a world-class coaching facility right here in Edmonton. While we already have a number of great coaches and athletics programs in Canada, I believe the Canadian Athletics Coaching Centre

will take the profession of athletics coaching to a new level. Anytime you build a facility that allows for higher learning in your respective discipline, great things can and will happen."

The Canadian Athletics Coaching Centre, which will be located in the U of A Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, was announced in October, 2003 and will be funded by an \$8 million 2001 World Championships in Athletics Legacy Fund, including \$700,000 in start-up funds. Interest earned on the legacy fund's capital will support the centre.

Tyler's appointment will have a positive impact on the delivery and calibre of coaching education in the U of A Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation degree programs, said Dr. Mike Mahon, dean of the faculty. "Kevin will play a key role in enhancing our undergraduate and graduate degree programs with concentrations in coaching – a field to which we're strongly committed."

"The vision of the development team was for this centre to become the country's focal point in the development of high-performance athletes and coaches, improving the health and fitness of our youth, and identifying the next generation of track and field athletes in Canada," Mahon said. "Kevin's appointment marks a giant step toward that goal."

"Tyler is a perfect fit for the role, said Jack Agrios, chairman of the 2001



Kevin Tyler is ready to spring into action as head of the new Canadian Athletics Coaching Centre. He begins his appointment in September.

World Championships in Athletics Legacy Foundation board. "We believe Kevin, with his national and international background will provide the initiative and leadership that is so important in the creation of the centre of excellence. This is a major coup for our beginning."

As a coach, Tyler found himself learning fundamentals on a piece-meal basis, and through the centre, he wants to change that, with specific programs. "You're almost gathering information in an ad-hoc fashion, but there isn't a lot of opportunity to learn in a formal manner."

Coaching has become a complex task that goes well beyond guiding athletes, he added. Securing funding for training, for instance, is one of the more challenging duties that has emerged. "You need to have a solid business approach."

The centre will provide coaches and athletes with a link to global resources, research centres and data, and is poised to become a major seedbed for the country's future athletes. Tyler said he expects high-profile athletes and their coaches will be drawn to the U of A's new centre and its programs. ■

Three researchers make their mark

Young Innovator Award recognizes ground-breaking efforts

By Shawn Benbow

Established in 2000 to promote research in Business, Science, and Engineering, the Petro-Canada Young Innovator Awards acknowledge University of Alberta faculty who are breaking new ground in their fields of study. Three awards of up to \$15,000 are given annually to researchers who are no more than eight years beyond the completion of their doctoral degree. This year, Dr. Subir Bhattacharjee and Dr. Alidad Amirfazli, both from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Dr. John Klassen of the Department of Chemistry are the recipients of the awards.

STARTING AT SQUARE ONE

Dr. Subir Bhattacharjee, a professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, "reverts" to being a graduate student himself every few years so he can come up with something new to research.

"Every three years I revert to being a grad student, in the sense that I pick up a new area to explore," Bhattacharjee said. He then works with graduate students to make these ideas reality, even when others say he won't get anywhere. "Eighty per cent of my graduate students are working on ideas where people have told me not to even try, because they didn't think it could be done in hundreds of years."

A recipient of a Petro-Canada Young Innovator Award, Bhattacharjee is currently developing a new way to purify oil emulsions in petroleum refineries. To extract crude oil from the ground, a large amount of water is mixed into the oil, and this water needs to be removed before processing.

"These oil droplets, when you send them to a secondary processing unit, can create a tremendous amount of complications, such as corrosion or even explosions. So, there has been a gradual shift to a zero-tolerance policy for water in the oil."

At a conference two years ago Bhattacharjee saw a poster presentation on dielectrophoresis, and thought he could develop the idea into something usable in the petroleum industry. With the assistance of graduate student Shahnawaz Molla, Bhattacharjee has created an electric membrane the size of a fingernail and covered it with electrodes thinner than a human hair.

The way electrophoresis works, he explains, is "when you turn on an electric field in the membrane, the particles of water are attracted to the surface. Then, if you turn off the electric field, the particles float off the surface."

Right now they have the basic principles down, and have had success in the lab with their small set of electrodes. "The basic physics have been resolved, so now we have to do the engineering part where we figure out how to make it bigger," Bhattacharjee said.

"I can tell you right now that I don't have a clue how we're going to draw 50-micron thin electrodes on a membrane 10 inches long," he said, but he's got a list of things to try, and that's what his current



Dr. Alidad Amirfazli is examining ways to make surfaces more water resistant.

research is geared towards. In order to use this technique commercially, the membranes would need to be hundreds of times larger and able to treat millions of litres each day.

Bhattacharjee and Molla submitted a paper to a scientific journal, and feedback was always positive. According to Bhattacharjee, he was skeptical at first. "It's funny because when you think something is great, often the community doesn't, and vice-versa." In this case, however, everyone has thought it was a novel idea. It's for this reason that Bhattacharjee won't stop until he's figured it out.

CAN WINDOWS CLEAN THEMSELVES?

Imagining windows that clean themselves or glassware that won't stain is not out of the ordinary for one University of Alberta Mechanical Engineering Assistant Professor.

Dr. Alidad Amirfazli, one of three recipients of the Petro-Canada Young Innovators award, has been working for two years on developing what some have termed "super Teflon," but he's adamant that that's not exactly the right term.

"What we're trying to do is reduce the 'wetability' of a surface – in other words, if you put a drop of water onto a surface that is hydrophobic, the water beads up instead of spreading out across the surface," Amirfazli explains.

Traditionally, research in these areas has focused solely on the chemicals that coat a surface. "With chemistry alone, there's a limit to what you can do – it's Teflon. We are trying to create micro-textures on the surface that would trap air in the surface pores which would reduce the wetability."

Amirfazli first came across this technique while supervising a WISEST (Women is Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology) summer student. "We were trying to follow the literature to produce these textured surfaces fairly unsuccessfully. But then by accident the student spilled the polymer on a table, and embarrassed, cleaned it up really

quickly. At first I was sort of angry because of the mess, but I said we should do the experiment on the table, and it worked," Amirfazli said.

The specific polymer he was using at the time crystallized in such a way that the wetability of the table was greatly reduced. However, the polymer used is very brittle. Amirfazli explained, "the polymer is very brittle – it cannot be used for building because it would just crumble." Since then, Amirfazli has been working with other students to come up with an appropriate surface micro-texture for other materials.

Realistically, such a surface could be used in hundred of applications, from non-stick cookware to self-cleaning glassware and windows. However, before he got too far into the research, Amirfazli tested the material he was working on with impure water – and found that it made almost no difference to the performance of the material or micro-texture.

"Distilled water does not come from the air, especially in cities; rain gathers up all sorts of gobbly-goop when it falls from the sky," he said.

Amirfazli also works closely with a number of professors and researchers at the U of A and across the country, and has discovered that such a material could be of great use in biomedical devices that test blood, for example.

"Researchers at the U of A are developing ways that would reduce a blood analysis lab onto a single chip that would require only a prick of blood," he said. Naturally, a material that doesn't stain channels in such a chip would be beneficial.

Although Amirfazli has received the Young Innovators award, he is quick to point out that it's not just his research. Amirfazli says that he always wants to expose graduate, undergraduate, and even WISEST students to research, and hopes that he can even learn things from them.

WATCHING MOLECULES AT WORK

When you first step into Dr. John Klassen's lab in the basement of the Gunning-Lemieux Chemistry Centre,

you're warned to remove all metal and electronic devices and set them aside. Apparently, a really strong magnet is needed to research how organic molecules bond.

A recipient of the Petro-Canada Young Innovator Award, Klassen is developing a system to analyze biological molecules out of water, using a form of mass spectrometry. Using mass spectrometry, Klassen can identify bonds between atoms and molecules, and figure out how they interact.

"I got my first taste using mass spectrometry for studying charged molecules in my fourth-year undergraduate research project, and it just clicked," Klassen said.

After graduating with a PhD from the U of A, he travelled to the University of California at Berkeley to get formal training with a Fourier-transform mass spectrometer. "Fourier-transform is the Cadillac of mass spectrometers; it combines high performance with experimental versatility," he said. "There was really no one in Canada using the instrumentation, so I went to Berkeley specifically to get a handle on that, and bring that technology back to Canada."

Klassen studies molecules two ways: in an aqueous (water) solution and in a gas phase. He then compares the two results to find the impact of water.

"No one is suggesting that biology is going on in a gas phase environment, but because the gas phase is much simpler, you're reducing the complexity of the problem and can focus on just the interaction between specific molecules," he said. "What I found attractive was it seemed so much clearer when you didn't have water to worry about."

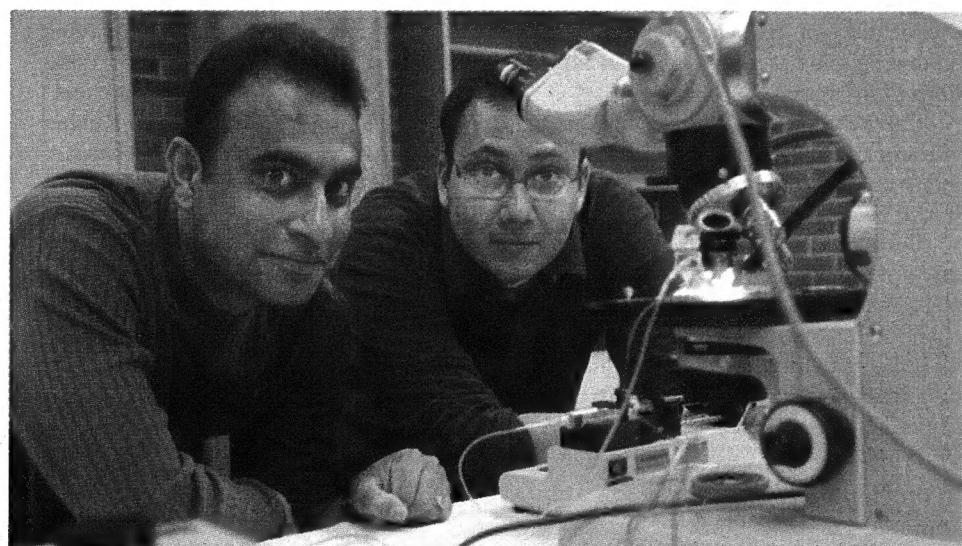
One promising application, he says, is in the pharmaceutical industry. "A lot of new drug discoveries involve making a large library of possible molecules, and you hope that a few of them will perform the function you're interested in," Klassen said. Using mass spectrometry to find interactions between molecules could lead to the development of drugs that are more likely to perform their specific function.

However, Klassen is quick to point out that they're really just starting the research. When he arrived back at the U of A it took almost two years to acquire and set up the equipment. "It's a very specialized type of mass spectrometer, and the instrument that we set up was the first of its kind in Canada, and because it was very expensive it took a while to get the necessary finds to start up."

"This research is really in its infancy – we're breaking new territory here," Klassen said when asked if other researchers are doing similar things. "This isn't an area we came into, we're trying to develop this field ourselves, and I think that people are waiting to see where it goes, and how much information will come out of it. It's difficult to tell where we'll end up because no one has ever done this before." ■



Dr. John Klassen is breaking new ground in researching the ways molecules interact.



Dr. Subir Bhattacharjee, seen here with graduate student Shahnawaz Molla, "reverts" to being a graduate student every few years.



Richard Cairney

Vinay Kariwala leaves for Norway to conduct post-doctoral work soon, but hopes to one day take on an academic position at the U of A.

University rewards top PhD students

Outstanding students earn Stewart Memorial Graduate Prize

By Richard Cairney

There couldn't have been a more intellectually stimulating and diverse group in the city than the 25 award-winning PhD students who met at the University of Alberta Faculty Club May 12.

Assembled to receive the prestigious, \$5,000 Andrew Stewart Memorial Graduate Prize, the students also had a chance to share their research with one another.

"It's easy to suffer from a bit of tunnel vision but this opens our eyes to all the different kinds of research being done here at the U of A," said Talib Rajwani, who is researching the causes of scoliosis, a spinal disorder in teens.

A perfect example of shared interests, on a personal and professional level was seen between sociology student Mark Jackson and Vinay Kariwala, who is researching control systems in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering.

Jackson had returned to Canada days earlier, back from almost two years in Calcutta, India, where he studied the infamous city and the way we perceive success and failure in modern urban life. Kariwala is from Calcutta and said he hoped to speak with Jackson. "He probably knows more about the city than I do," Kariwala said.

Jackson said he chose Calcutta as a base to question modernity because of its history and reputation. "It was once one of the most powerful cities in the world. It is this mythic place of failure, and I want to look at how people describe hopes and expectations of modern cities," he said.

Calcutta is "an amazing, flourishing, vibrant, alive city that encapsulates so many problems of how we conceive what it is to be modern and urban."

Born and raised on a farm near the town of Calmar, about 50 kilometres southwest of Edmonton, Jackson has seen changes in rural communities concurrent with the growth of urban communities. "I'm interested in how we think of the future and what it means to flourish. In Calcutta, the intensity of all these things is magnified."

For his part, Kariwala is pretty happy to be in Edmonton and at the U of A in

particular. His area of study is control systems. Using metaphors like a parent controlling a child as an example of small-scale control systems and provincial governments contributing to the development of a nation as an example of a larger-scale system, Kariwala said his research focuses on how and where to control different systems, from chemical reactions to manufacturing plants.

Being presented with the Stewart Prize is an honour, he added. "It's nice recognition for the work you are doing. You take up a problem that you think is important and other people appreciate it too, and think you're getting good results."

Kariwala is going to Norway to take up a postdoctoral position soon, but hopes to return to the U of A as an academic.

"In the long run I'd like to teach, and it would be nice at the U of A. We've got one of the biggest control groups in the world here."

Stewart Prize recipient Shelley Watson has the same feeling about the U of A—she says she came here because she wanted to work with Dr. Dick Sobsey, her supervisor.

Watson is beginning research into the experience of families who have a child born with a genetic defect, in this case, Prader-Willi Syndrome. She is interested in knowing how families cope and adapt to having a child with a disability, and is critical of much of the present research into the matter.

"There is an assumption that having a child with a disability isn't a good thing," she said, adding that many researchers apply theories such as Elizabeth Kubler-Ross's theory of grieving to the experiences of parents with disabled children.

"People aren't looking at the good things. These families are experiencing a lot of joy," she said.

Whereas most research into the area has been quantitative, conducted through questionnaires, Watson is going to personally interview families when they have a child born with Prader-Willi Syndrome. By focusing on a specific condition, she said, the research will be of greater use in determining needs of families not being met at present. ■



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Submit talks and events to Cora Doucette by 3 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication. **Folio Talks and Events listings will no longer accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm>.**

UNTIL MAY 31 2004

Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten

Registration Are you looking for a preschool or kindergarten class close to the University? The Child Study Centre offers junior kindergarten and kindergartens classes on Campus. Applications are now being accepted for September. Location: University Campus.

UNTIL MAY 22 2004

Dialogue and Rebuttal by Gao Xingjian

Studio Theatre's 2003-2004 season concludes with Dialogue and Rebuttal; a compelling "Modern Zen Drama" by Gao Xingjian. Darkly surreal, poetic and profoundly magical, Dialogue and Rebuttal plays at the Timms Centre for the Arts (87 Avenue & 112 Street), May 13 - 22, 2004. Gao Xingjian is arguably the most important living Chinese author and dramatist of our time. Exiled from his native China, after years of official opposition to his work, Xingjian is widely celebrated as the author of the internationally acclaimed novel Soul Mountain, and as China's first Nobel Prize Laureate. Evening performances of Dialogue and Rebuttal run May 13 - 22, 2004, at 8 p.m., and a Matinee performance Thursday, May 21, at 12:30 p.m. There is no show Sunday, May 16, 2004. Tickets are on sale May 4th, available for \$8 to \$20, at the Timms Centre Box Office from noon to 5 pm, Tuesday through Friday, or by calling 492-2495. Sponsored by: Edmonton Journal and CKER Radio. Mature themes, sexual content and nudity. Location: Timms Centre for the Arts, Main Stage. 8 p.m.

MAY 14 2004

Dept of Mathematical and Statistical

Sciences Colloquium - Professor Yiming Long, Nankai University, will be speaking on "Multiple Brake Orbits in Convex Symmetric Domains." Refreshments will be served in CAB 649 at 9:30 a.m. Location: 657 Central Academic Building. 10 a.m.

Molecular Biology and Genetics Group and

Genetics 605 Dr. William Brook, Associate Professor, Genes and Development Research Group, Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary is presenting a seminar on "Drosophila Tbx20's: breaking symmetry and breaking hearts." This seminar in part of the Molecular Biology and Genetics Group and Genetics 605 seminar series. Location: M-149 Biological Sciences Building. 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

White Buffalo Dancers & Drummers Society

Performance of Aboriginal Women and Spirituality The White Buffalo Dancers & Drummers Society aims to preserve the singing and dancing traditions of aboriginal people. This unique performance will portray aspects of aboriginal women and their spirituality. Location: Convocation Hall, Old Arts Building, U of A campus. 7 p.m.

MAY 15 2004

8th Annual Western Undergraduate History

Conference A wide variety of topics of interest to all students will be presented at this conference. Admittance to all sessions is free of charge. For a complete program, please go to the History & Classics office - Tory 2-48. Location: Business - 1st Floor Lecture Rooms. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mock Training Exercise

Campus Security Services in co-operation with the Edmonton Police Service Tactical Unit will be conducting a mock training exercise in the Humanities building affecting the northeast campus area. Access into Humanities will not be restricted however; access will be limited in some areas in and around the building. Prior to the exercise, CSS members will endeavor to personally visit areas and offices in the immediate vicinity with the above message to promote awareness of this exercise and to answer any questions. Various emergency vehicles are scheduled to be in the northeast campus area, (primarily in the arts quad and near 111 Street-Saskatchewan Drive). Placards and other signs will be visible indicating that a training exercise is in progress. This exercise is in conjunction with the 2004 Campus Security Administrators Workshop (Western Canada) to be held on campus from May 12-15, 2004 which will provide a unique opportunity to share and compare emergency contingency plans from our respective organizations. This joint exercise will ensure that emergency first responders are enabled to provide the best possible service to the community in potentially high risk situations. More information on the 2004 CSAW can be found at www.cps.ualberta.ca/csaw04/csaw.asp Location: North East Campus-Humanities Building. 1 to 5 p.m.

MAY 17 2004

Grand Rounds

Melody Isinger, PhD (Cand) Duguesne University, Pittsburgh, PA Clinical Ethics Resident Royal Alexandra Hospital. Location: Classroom F, Walter MacKenzie Centre (2J4.02) 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

PHS Grand Rounds

Special Grand Rounds presents Guest Speaker: Dr Robert Ross, Professor, School of Physical and Health Education/Medicine, Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Queen's University "New Insight into the Characterization and Treatment of Obesity and Related Insulin Resistance." Location: Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building. 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

AHFMR and Biological Sciences

Richard Meyer, University of Texas at Austin, will be speaking on "Infectious Spread of Antibiotic Resistance by Conjugation: Mechanisms For Restoring the Integrity of Plasmid DNA After Transfer." Location: 1-013 ETLC. 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

MAY 18 - 29 2004

Designing a Better Joe: A Pleasure-Based

Approach to Action Figure Design This exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Design in Industrial Design featuring the work of Adrien Cho. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2004, 7 p.m. to 10 pm. Regular Gallery hours are from Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 2 to 5 p.m. Location: Fine Arts Building Gallery, room 1-1 Fine Arts Building, 112 street and 89 avenue, University of Alberta campus.

To Call Me Ishmael: Work by Carolyn

Campbell This exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Painting. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2004, 7:00p.m. to 10:00pm. Regular Gallery hours are from Tuesday to Friday, 10:00am to 5:00pm, and Saturday 2:00 to 5:00pm. Location: Fine Arts Building Gallery, room 1-1 Fine Arts Building, 112 street and 89 avenue, University of Alberta campus.

MAY 18 2004

CaPS Workshop: Resume Writing Find out what it takes to write a winning resume! Pre-register at CaPS, 2-100 SUB. Check out our web site for event details such as description and fees. Location: 4-02 Students' Union Building (SUB). 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Medieval and Early Modern Institute, Faculty

of Arts "The Archive" vs "the archives" - Source Selection, Authority and Canonicity in History and Literature Studies. The Medieval and Early Modern Institute invites submissions for "The Archive" vs "the archives." This one-day colloquium will include keynote addresses, morning and afternoon sessions, and a luncheon, during which the Annual General Meeting of the Medieval and Early Modern Institute will be held. Keynote Speakers: Bob Cole, John Kitchen. Papers can include but are not limited to: -the canon of "The Archive"/"the archives" as canon -adequacy of sources within "The Archive" /"the archives" -questions of authority and authenticity "The Archive" /"the archives" -issues of legitimacy in "The Archive"/ "the archives" -theoretical approaches to "The Archive" /"the archives" -methodological approaches to "The Archive" / "the archives" -interaction between the disciplines within "The Archive" / "the archives" -interdisciplinarity within "The Archive" /"the archives" -issues of representation within and of "The Archive" / "the archives" Papers should be 15-20 minutes in length. Submissions for individual papers or full panels are welcome. Location: BUS 2-5. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CaPS Workshop: Interview Skills

Location: 4-02 Students' Union Building (SUB). 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.


Health Talks Lecture Series

A series of free lectures at University Hospital focusing on popular health issues. Heart Disease: Advancements in Treatment Offer Hope. This presentation will discuss a wide range of current and evolving treatments including emergency procedures, technical and medical advancements that open up clogged blood vessels, and clinical care for chronic conditions that affect heart function. These treatments offer better outcomes for patients with conditions related to the heart. Moderator: Dr. Dylan Taylor Admission to all lectures is free, but a ticket is required. For information call 407-1644 or 407-8408. Location: Bernard Snell Hall, University of Alberta Hospital. 7 to 9 p.m.

MAY 19 2004

UofA ICT Forum - "Challenges and

Opportunities in e-Health" This forum will focus on the challenges of collecting, managing, sharing and securing health data for the purposes of health research. Interested on-campus staff and students as well as the general public are invited to this one-day forum in which health researchers and experts will discuss both issues and possible solutions to challenges in the area of e-health and the opportunities presented through the use of knowledge discovery techniques. The forum is free to all participants, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors.



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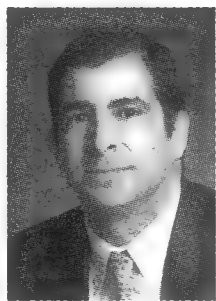


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APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT



Darlene Frampton



Brad Hamdon

Susan Green, Vice-President (External Relations) is pleased to announce the appointment of Darlene Frampton as the University of Alberta's new Associate Vice-President (Communications and Marketing).

Darlene Frampton holds a Master of Education (Administration) degree from the University of Toronto and brings more than 25 years experience in communications, marketing and government relations in the post-secondary, health care and government sectors.

Ms Frampton will lead the University's next generation of communications and marketing initiatives through an integrated marketing approach including strategic support to the upcoming campaign, institutional communications planning and the University centennial in 2008. She will also provide leadership to the public affairs, government relations, marketing and creative services portfolios.

Carl G. Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) is pleased to announce the appointment of Brad Hamdon as the University of Alberta's new General Counsel.

Brad Hamdon holds both a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a Bachelor of Laws Degree from the University of Alberta. Over the past thirteen years, he has developed a broad base of legal and business experience. Most recently, he served as Associate General Counsel and Assistant Corporate Secretary at EPCOR Utilities. He spent six years as the Senior Legal Counsel at Enbridge Pipelines Inc. and five years as an Associate at Field Atkinson Perraton (now Field LLP).

Mr Hamdon will provide legal advice to the University's Senior Executive team in areas such as administrative contracts, University governance and human resource policy and procedures.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA IS ONE OF CANADA'S TOP TEACHING AND RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES WITH OVER 34,000 STUDENTS AND A CONSOLIDATED BUDGET OF JUST OVER \$1B. THE U OF A WILL LAUNCH ITS SECOND MAJOR FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN IN THE FALL OF 2004.

For more details and to register, please visit our website at www.ualberta.ca/ict. Location: Maple Leaf Conference Room, Lister Hall, UofA Campus. 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

AHFMR & Medical Genetics Dr. Phil Gage, Kellogg Eye Centre, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Michigan Medical School is presenting "Developmental genetics of neural crest and mesoderm in eye development and disease." Dr. Gage's exploration of Pitx2 expression and his understanding of the molecular etiology of glaucoma will be of great interest to all science and medicine students, faculty, fellows, and staff. Location: 2-07 HMRC. 12 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

PHS Grand Rounds Dr Tom Feasby, Vice-President, Academic Affairs, Capital Health Authority and Associate Dean, Clinical Affairs, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry "Doing the Right Thing and Doing the Right Thing Right: An Appropriateness and Outcomes Study of Carotid Endarterectomy in Canada" This event is an accredited group learning activity as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Location: Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building. 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Social Connectedness and Economic Outcomes: Potential and Limit of Social Capital for Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities The Research & Scholarship Committee of the Department of Educational Policy Studies would like to announce a presentation by Dr. Peter S. Li. Dr. Li is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Saskatchewan and Chair of the Economic Domain, Prairie Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Integration. Location: 7-157 Education North Education Centre. 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

CaPS Workshop: So You Want to Be An Academic Pre-register at CaPS, 2-100 SUB. Check out our web site for details such as description and fees. Location: 4-02 Students' Union Building (SUB). 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Alumni Association Annual General Meeting All alumni are welcome to attend! Location: Alumni House. 5:30 p.m.

Health Talks Lecture Series A series of free lectures focusing on popular health issues. Join us for an informative presentation that will provide a basic understanding of influenza viruses, how they replicate and how they move from animals to humans. Find out about the public health issues and what is being done to prepare for epidemics and pandemics. Moderator: Dr. Lorne Tyrrell, Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. Admission to all lectures is free, but a ticket is required. For information call 407-1644 or 407-8408. Location: Bernard Snell Hall, University of Alberta Hospital. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Canadian Studies Faculte Saint-Jean. "Professors of Despair" by Nancy Huston, internationally known writer. This lecture is part of the Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Canadian Studies. Free admission Lecture in French and English. Location: Auditorium of Faculté Saint-Jean, 8406 - 91 Street, Edmonton. 7:30 p.m.

MAY 20 2004

Treatment of Problem Gambling: A Vision for the Future The Alberta Gaming Research Institute is co-sponsoring, with the University of Calgary, a special interest conference focusing on The Treatment of Problem Gambling: A Vision for the Future. Following a Welcome Reception, the evening of Thursday, May 20, the two-day conference will be held Friday and Saturday. Foremost researchers in the field will present the most recent research results in various types of treatment. It will appeal to academics and those involved in treatment of and intervention in problem gambling, as well as to students in related fields of study and the general public. Location: Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta.

CaPS Free Brown Bag Lunch Seminar: Strategies for Tapping the Hidden Job Market Location: 2-100 Students' Union Building (SUB). 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Department of Biological Sciences Glen Collier, Department of Biology, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, Oklahoma is speaking on "Drosophila arginine kinase: multiple transcript/multiple functions." Location: M-145 Biological Sciences Building. 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Women and the Sacred: Across Cultures and Traditions A medley for voices arranged by Patricia Demers and directed by Betty Moulton. Enjoy an evening of readings and other artistic representations of women and religion throughout history. Location: Milner Library Theatre, Stanley Milner Library (7 Sir Winston Churchill Square). 7 p.m.

MAY 21 2004

Dept of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and AHFMR Speaker: Dr. William H. Baldrige, laboratory for Retina & Optic Nerve Research; Departments of Anatomy & Neurobiology and Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, Dalhousie University Medical School, will be speaking on "Calcium Dynamics in mammalian retinal ganglion cells: effects of glutamate, strategies for neuroprotection and relevance to glaucoma." Location: 207 HMRC. 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

MAY 22 2004

Saturday Walk with a Garden Horticulturist (Alpine) Meet at the Shop-In-The-Garden at noon and tour the Alpine Garden and adjoining native plant areas, both in full bloom at this time! Horticulturist Linda Hewlett will guide the tour and provide information for all your questions. Regular admission rates apply. Phone (780) 987-2064 to book your spot and to enjoy a pleasurable spring walk! Location: Devonian Botanic Garden (25 minutes South West of West Edmonton Mall or 5 km north of the Town of Devon on Hwy. 60). 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

MAY 23 2004

Demonstration of Beijing Opera Location: 1-29 Fine Arts Building. 2 p.m.

MAY 24 2004

Night of Beijing Opera Location: Myer Horowitz Theatre Students' Union Building (SUB). 7:30 p.m.

MAY 26 2004

QVHS Luncheon Annual luncheon for members of the Quaecumque vera Honour Society donor group. Location: Faculty Club. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

CaPS Free Brown Bag Lunch Seminar: Developing a Personal Web Site to Find Work Location: 2-100 Students' Union Building (SUB). 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

PHS Colloquium & Grand Rounds Dr Gus Thompson, Suicidologist "Suicide Prevention and Injury Prevention: Do They Belong Under the Same Roof?" This event is an accredited group learning activity as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Location: Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building. 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

MAY 27 2004

PMI - NAC Conference Our morning keynotes include Dr. Harold Kerzner who will present Best Practices in Project Management, and James H. Johnson, Chairman of The Standish Group, who will present CHAOS Has Never Looked So Good? an exploration of the CHAOS research to understand the reasons behind recent improvements. At lunch we'll bring participants back together for a keynote delivered by Dr. Janice Thomas: Managing the White Spaces of Project Management, a discussion that explores how project managers add value by adapting guidelines and standards to situations. We'll also have Doug Dawson, Director of Capital Programs at the U of A present how the early involvement of project managers positively affects project outcomes in the massive building program at the U of A. Our line up includes our ever-popular two-day short courses: Dr. Bill Warner of the McRae International Management Institute, will present The Dynamic PMP Prep Course, an information-packed workshop where attendees can develop a PMP prep study plan and learn where to concentrate effort. Sami Fahmy will deliver Project Management 101, a hands-on workshop that will introduce participants to the fundamentals of project management, along with tools and techniques used in real life examples. You'll find many more topics of interest in these session streams: P.M. Tools & Techniques P.M. Soft Skills / Special Interest Case Studies Strategic PM. Location: TELUS Centre for Professional Development. 8 a.m.

MAY 30 - JUN 02 2004

Summer Institute for Chemical Engineering Professors The Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering - Process Safety Division is holding the first "Summer Institute" for Chemical Engineering Professors across Canada. The Institute has as its goal to have each chemical engineering program in Canada incorporate the topics of process safety management and risk management into their curriculum. To that end we are inviting professors from each chemical engineering program in Canada. There are many tools, techniques and resources available for professors to use. The goal is to ensure newly graduated engineers are familiar with the topic as they enter their careers, and become aware of the many well known tools for preventing incidents. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Location: TBA.

MAY 31 2004

Chancellor's Cup Golf Tournament Location: Blackhawk Golf Course. 1 p.m.

JUN 02 2004

Cooperative Program in Agricultural Marketing & Business Conferences. 'Reducing Risk, Protecting People: Implications for Health, Food, and Agribusiness.' Risks are inherent in the agriculture/food industry. Historically risks centered around weather and markets. In more recent times the industry is facing newer risks from resource availability to changes in consumer preferences, to disease and health issues. Symposium 2004 provides us with an opportunity to examine risk in

CONNECTING TISSER DES LIENS ENTRE CANADIENS

THE CENTRE FOR CANADIAN STUDIES OF FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN invites you to a Public Lecture



Speaker: Nancy Huston, Internationally known writer
Title: *Professors of Despair*
Date: Wednesday, May 19th, 2004
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Faculté Saint-Jean, Pavillon central, Auditorium 8406, rue Marie-Anne-Gaboury (91 Street)

This conference is part of the Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Canadian Studies.

The lecture will be presented in both official languages.

Free Admission - Please reserve your seat with Diane Leblanc at 465-8716 or by e-mail: diane.leblanc@ualberta.ca



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the context of the overall industry and in individual farm or firm management. Location: Room E1-013 Engineering Teaching and Learning Centre. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Spring Convocation Ceremonies Spring Convocation Ceremony for the Faculty of Science. Location: Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium. 2 to 5 p.m.

UNTIL JUN 30 2004

Beyond These Halls: Senate Community Service Recognition Program Tell us about your volunteer work! The University of Alberta recognizes and celebrates the valuable community service contributions made by faculty, staff and students through its BEYOND THESE HALLS: Senate Community Service Recognition Program. We are currently collecting information on volunteer contributions made during the 2003 calendar year. Visit

notices

Please send notices attention Folio, 6th floor General Services Building, University of Alberta, T6G 2H1 or e-mail public.affairs@ualberta.ca. Notices should be received by 3 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication.

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

On December 12, 2003 Dr. Fraser announced his plan to retire as President on June 30, 2005, the end date of his current appointment. In accordance with policy, the Board of Governors struck a Committee to conduct a search for Dr. Fraser's replacement. Members of the Presidential Search Committee are:

Jim Edwards	Chair, Board of Governors
	Chair, Search Committee
*John Ferguson	Chancellor
*Eric Newell	Chancellor Elect
Ross Grieve	Member, Board of Governors
Brian Heidecker	Member, Board of Governors
Dr. Patricia Clements	Academic (Professor of English)
Dr. Stewart Hamilton	Academic (Professor of Surgery)
Dr. John Vederas	Academic (Professor of Chemistry)
Dr. Michael Mahon	Dean, Phys. Ed. and Rec.
Dr. Laura Frost	Chair, Department of Biological Sciences
Dr. Gordon Swaters	AAS:UA
Mat Brechtel	Students' Union
Jordan Blatz	Students' Union
Lee Skallerup	Graduate Students' Association
Dr. Jill Bushrod	Senate
Joy Correia	NASA
Gordon Barr	Alumni

*Dr. Ferguson has requested that Dr. Newell replace him on the Committee effective April 23, 2004.

The Presidential Search Committee has held two meetings to date and a report of the meetings is available on the Board of Governors' web site www.ualberta.ca/governors. Regular meeting updates will be posted to this website.

The Presidential Search Committee currently welcomes input and comments from members of the University of Alberta community regarding the upcoming search for President.

In particular the Presidential Search Committee would hope that you might address the following questions:

1. What, in your view, are the main issues, opportunities and challenges facing the University of Alberta at this point in the University's history?

2. Given that context, what would be the academic credentials, background, administrative and professional experience and personal qualities that you would advise the Search Committee to seek in potential candidates for the position of President?

3. Where/in what current institutions or positions might suitable candidates be located?

Please submit your comments in writing, in confidence, by sending them to Dr. Janet Wright, Executive Search Consultant or Ms. Louise Shulko, Board Secretary.

Dr. Janet Wright, Janet Wright & Associates Inc.
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EFF - FSIDA (FUND FOR SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES)

The deadlines for receipt of applications to the EFF - FSIDA are Oct. 15, 2004 and Jan. 15, 2005. This Fund exists to enable staff and graduate students (normally PhD candidates) of the University of Alberta to participate in research and in the international transfer of knowledge and expertise through partnerships in developing countries. Applications and guidelines are available on the University of Alberta International website <www.international.ualberta.ca> under "International

the website at www.ualberta.ca/beyondthesehalls and fill out the on-line submission forms (individual or group). The deadline for submissions is 30 June 2004. Last year, submissions ranged from large projects like a collaborative research initiative with not-for-profit groups to individuals volunteering as mentors to young scholars. Information will be compiled in a keepsake booklet and all participants will be invited to a recognition ceremony in September, 2004 at which time we will announce the results of the University's volunteer contributions for 2003. This year, special awards are being created such as Media Relations, Good Neighbor, Rising Star, New Initiative, and Exemplary Service. Location: TBA.

UNTIL SEP 01 2005

Marginal Notes: an exhibition of bookworks concerning social issues Location: Bruce Peel Special Collections Library, Rutherford South.

Co-operation" and "Funding Opportunities" or from the FSIDA Secretary at University of Alberta International, 1204 College Plaza, 8215-112 Street, telephone 492-6440.

EXCITING INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND FACULTY.

Rotary District 5370 and TRF Scholarships (Deadline for applications soon! - July 30, 2004)

Do you know of two bright young women or men who would love to continue academic study in another country for a year, to learn more about another culture and to further international understanding and world peace? Do you know of a University Teacher who wants to teach in a developing country for 3 to 6 months?

An ACADEMIC-YEAR AMBASSADORIAL INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP of up to \$25,000 (U.S.) is being made available by Rotary District 5370 during the 2005 - 2006 academic year, to one deserving young scholar who has completed at least two years of university or college courses. The applicant will undertake approximately 9 months of full time study at an institution assigned by the Rotary Foundation Trustees. Applicants can be at the undergraduate or graduate level of their studies, must be doing excellent work, and be able and willing to be outstanding ambassadors of goodwill to the people of the host country.

A WORLD PEACE SCHOLARSHIP is also available from The Rotary Foundation to a deserving student for the 2005 - 2006 year, for study at one of the seven Rotary Centers for International Studies. It culminates in a two-year master's-level degree or certificate in international relations, peace and conflict resolution. Rotary World Peace Scholarships are for two academic years and provide funding for round-trip transportation, tuition and fees, room, board and other limited expenses. (Up to \$50,000 US)

A UNIVERSITY TEACHERS GRANT is available from Rotary District 5370 for someone who holds (or if retired, has held) a full-time college or university appointment for three or more years; it supports three to five months of teaching service in a developing country. (Up to \$12,500 US)

Applicants must be sponsored through a local Rotary Club in the applicant's legal or permanent residence, or place of full-time study/work. Persons with disabilities and members of Rotoract Clubs are eligible and encouraged to apply.

The DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS is July 30, 2004 (for the 2005 - 06 year). Go to the website below for more detailed information and applications.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION AND SCHOLARSHIPS (see Education Programs) <http://www.rotary.org/foundation/>, or contact Rotarian Mary Ann Bibby, (District Chair, Scholarships) at the University of Alberta, for further information. maryann.bibby@ualberta.ca
More information is available on these websites:

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION AND SCHOLARSHIPS (see Education Programs) <http://www.rotary.org/foundation/> AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho/index.html Information for Applicants: http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho/prospect/index.html Information for Rotarians http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho/rotarian/index.html GRANTS FOR UNIVERSITY TEACHERS http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/un_teach/applicant/index.html <http://www.rotary.org/newsandinfo/downloadcenter/pdfs/193en.pdf>

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Dr. McAlister and a team of Heritage and other researchers at the Universities of Alberta and Calgary have been awarded nearly \$900,000 over the next three years through a new AHFMR research funding initiative called the Programs in Health Services Research. The goal of their research program

is to improve the quality of care for patients at risk for disability or death from vascular diseases. Their main focus will be identifying where, how, and why gaps exist or have been successfully bridged in vascular disease care.

The Programs in Health Services Research build on the activities of the existing Health Research Fund* and the State of the Science Reviews programs. The Programs in Health Services Research are intended to fund research in priority areas of: Continuum of Care and Delivery Models; Governance and Accountability; Financing and Public Expectations; or Information Technology and Information Management for the Improvement of Health.

*AHFMR administers the Programs in Health Services Research and the Health Research Fund through a contract with Alberta Health and Wellness

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ALBERTA INGENUITY SCHOLAR IN AGRI-BIOPRODUCTS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE

The Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science at the University of Alberta invites applications for an Alberta Ingenuity Scholar in Agri-Bioproducts. The proposed candidate must be conversant in such varied platform technologies as agricultural biotechnology, materials science, analytical chemistry, extraction and fractionation methods, protein chemistry, enzymology and biochemistry. The Ingenuity Scholar will, over the next two years, establish a rigorous research and educational program in the area of agricultural biotechnology, in consultation with other department scientists, who are concerned with the various platform technologies listed above. The Scholar will lead the application to Alberta Ingenuity to create an Ingenuity Centre in Agri-Bioproducts at the U of A. Over the next five years, this team will develop the centre's capabilities in research, education, technology transfer, communication, organizational structure and commercialization initiatives, and will establish specific milestones and metrics to determine the centre's success against its stated goals. This is a tenure track/tenure appointment at an Associate Professor/Professor level.

The Alberta Ingenuity Scholar program was established by the Alberta Ingenuity Fund to enable Alberta universities to achieve the highest levels of research excellence in the global, knowledge-based economy. This scholar program was established to recruit a world-class scientist to Alberta to lead in the creation of Ingenuity Centres, funded by Alberta Ingenuity.

Applicants must have a PhD in food science, chemistry, physics, biochemistry or a related area, and extensive research and teaching credentials in areas related to agri-bioproducts. The candidate will have the vision and proven talent essential to building successful collaborative research programs that cross institutional and disciplinary boundaries and lead to technology commercialization. This dynamic individual must have excellent communication and interpersonal skills, a track record of successful partnering with industry, government and senior representatives of funding and regulatory agencies, and high energy and personal commitment to developing the agri-bioproducts industry.

The U of A, one of Canada's premier research institutions, offers excellent research facilities and equipment including a new agri-biotechnology centre and a soon-to-be built Agri-Food Discovery Place. Alberta's strong scientific base and abundant agricultural resources provide a superb foundation for leadership in the emerging agri-bioproducts and nutraceuticals industry.

Applications, including a statement of research interest, curriculum vitae and the names of three referees, should be sent to Dr. John Kennelly, Chair, Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2P5. Closing date for applications is May 31, 2004 or until a suitable candidate is found. For further information on this position contact Dr. Kennelly at (780) 492 2131 / (780) 492 4265, e-mail: afns-chair@ualberta.ca

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE INSTITUTE FOR BIOMEDICAL DESIGN

(www.projectcybercell.com)

The Institute for Biomolecular Design within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta invites applications for a research associate in the area of computational and systems biology. The successful applicant is expected to work in a variety of areas associated with metabolic engineering, both at the theoretical and experimental levels. In particular, the successful candidate will have extensive experience in the measurement and analysis of intracellular metabolic flux distributions using methods based on ¹³C labeling as well as the measurement of intracellular isotope distributions using NMR and/or GC-MS. The candidate will be skilled in the operation of pilot-scale bioreactors and the preparation of batch, continuous and perfusion cultures for micro-organisms. In particular, the successful applicant will support science related to the institute's major objective of constructing a rigorous model in silico of the structural morphology and biochemical activity which constitute the life processes of a living cell. This research is being conducted under the auspices of Project CyberCell and in essence represents Canada's entry in the field of virtual cell research.

Qualifications: a PhD in chemical and/or biological engineering, biochemistry or a closely

related field; a strong commitment to high quality independent research; at least five years relevant experience in the use of NMR, GC-MS, HPLC and LS. Strong programming skills in MatLab, Fortran and C are essential. Familiarity with 2-D gel electrophoresis is an asset. Working within a multidisciplinary team of biologists, engineers, biochemists, biophysicists and computer scientists, the candidate will demonstrate strong communication skills and have a track record of scientific publication commensurate with experience.

The University of Alberta is a top-tier Canadian university with a strong commitment to advanced research. Founded in 1998 and affiliated to the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, the Institute for Biomolecular Design has assembled a balanced and integrated nucleus of scientists that are among the best in Canada. The institute boasts state-of-the-art laboratory facilities and one of the largest dedicated supercomputing platforms in Canada, combined with a highly interdisciplinary, dynamic and innovative team committed to ensuring that Canadian biomedical research remains cutting edge.

Salary Range for this position is \$43,700. - \$62,000.

Please send a CV, a letter expressing research interests and focus, and names of three qualified individuals who can provide references to:

Dr. Michael Ellison, Executive Director
Institute for Biomolecular Design
3-67 Medical Sciences Building
University of Alberta, Edmonton
Alberta, Canada T6G 2H7
E-mail: mike.ellison@ualberta.ca
Fax: (1-780) 492-9394

Screening of applications will take place immediately, with an expected start date of September 2004.

CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR (TIER I) FACULTY OF NURSING

Ranked as one of the top nursing schools in Canada, the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta is the largest in the country and is poised for continued growth. Newly allocated provincial funding will result in significant increases in program enrolments at all levels. The Faculty of Nursing offers a full range of degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels and has the distinction of being the first funded nursing doctoral program in Canada. The Faculty has established an international reputation for the quality and scope of nursing research and, with that, research funding has increased eight-fold over the past seven years. Key focal areas of research within the Faculty are global health, health systems and services, evidence based clinical practice, innovative learning environments, and population health.

The Faculty of Nursing is seeking to nominate a Tier I Canada Research Chair. The Canada Research Chairs program was established in 2000 by the Canadian Government to foster world-class research excellence. Tier I Chairs are viewed as outstanding researchers, acknowledged by their peers as world leaders in their fields.

The Tier I Canada Research Chair would be expected to develop and lead programs of innovative, focused, and high quality research, particularly clinical research in symptom management. The chair would teach graduate courses (potential of one course per year) and would attract and supervise graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. The appointee would also attract excellent trainees, students and future researchers and would contribute to capacity building in the Faculty through graduate research training, teaching, mentoring of colleagues and young researchers, and the development of collaborative initiatives.

Applicants must be doctorally qualified with an established program of research. They must be recognized as leaders within their fields and have a successful record of attracting and supervising graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Eligibility to be registered as a nurse in the Province of Alberta is required. The Canada Research Chair is valued at \$200,000 per year for a seven-year term. The successful applicant will receive a competitive salary commensurate with qualifications, supplemented with an excellent benefits plan, significant research support, and relocation assistance.

To apply for this position, send your letter of application, curriculum vitae, a proposed five-year research plan, and the names of three referees to Ms. Elizabeth Hurley or Ms. Pam Sprague, Davies Park, 904 Oxford Tower, 10235 - 101 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T5J 3G1; Fax: (780) 426-2936; E-mail: careers@daviespark.com. Visit the Davies Park website at www.daviespark.com for a copy of the Opportunity Profile.

SPANISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS CO-ORDINATOR

The Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies at the University of Alberta invites applications for a position in Spanish Applied Linguistics at Assistant Professor rank, with a specialty in Second Languages Acquisition. The successful candidate will function as the Spanish Undergraduate Language Programs Co-ordinator for the large and growing program in Spanish and Latin American Studies, effective July 1, 2004. Minimum salary for assistant professor level as of that date is \$51,770. Responsibilities will include: co-ordinate and administer the department's Spanish undergraduate language programs; supervise and mentor graduate teaching assistants and sessional instructors; with other colleagues, teach the graduate seminar in teaching strategies and methodologies; prepare and deliver teaching workshops for faculty and students; engage in teaching and research in second language acquisition and pedagogy at undergraduate and graduate levels. A PhD in Spanish applied linguistics, or equivalent experience, is required. Native or near-native proficiency in Spanish is also required,

as is demonstrated competence and experience in the administration of undergraduate language programs. Candidates should also offer skills and research interests in computer assisted language learning (CALL).

Applicants should also have a strong cultural orientation to their professional activities and be open to collaboration with other disciplines. Our Department is closely linked to the Arts Resource Centre and is the administrative home of the unique MA in Humanities Computing. Six applied linguists work in French, German, Spanish, Russian, and Ukrainian. The successful candidate will be expected to interact closely with these groups in order to support high quality undergraduate second language instruction and research in Spanish. Knowledge of other relevant languages would be an asset. Applications including cv, all university transcripts, and three letters of recommendation should be addressed to Dr. Donald Bruce, Chair, Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, Arts 200, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6G 2E6. E-mail inquiries may be directed to: dolores.wohland@ualberta.ca; tel: (780) 492-1997; fax: (780) 492-9106. Closing date for applications is May 31, 2004.

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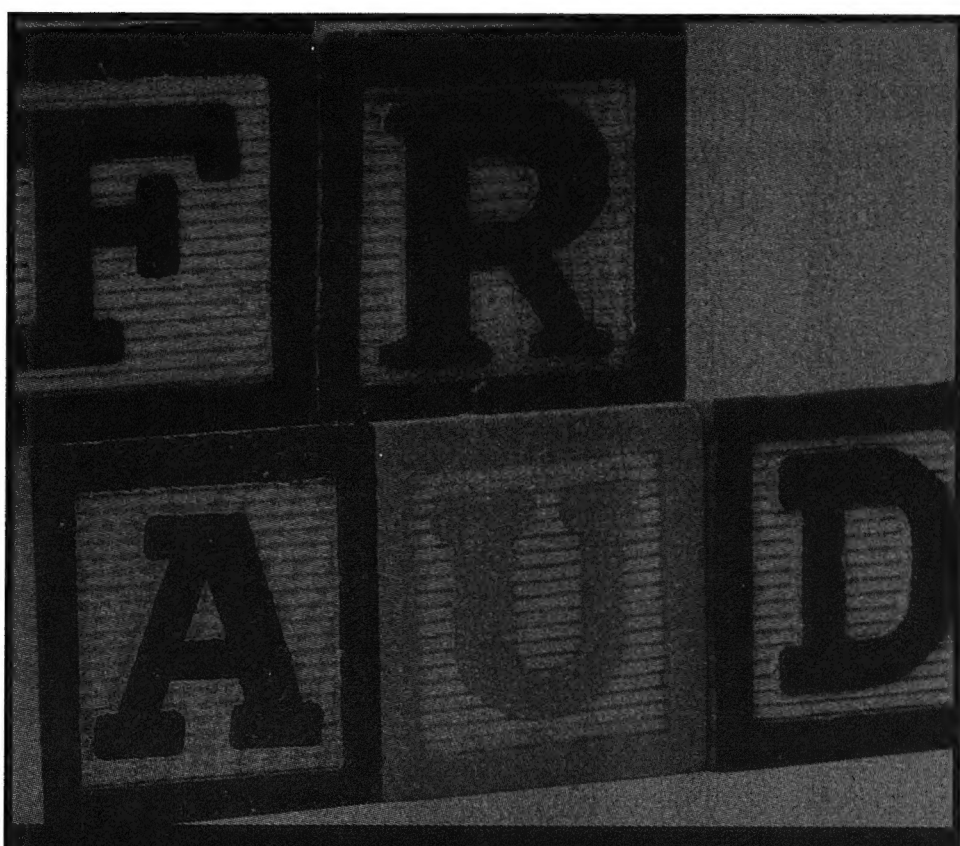
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Toying around



Design student takes toys seriously

By Richard Cairney

Adrien Cho's fascination with toys is obvious. A battery-powered Astro Boy hangs from the ceiling of his office, poised for flight at the flick of a switch. Tiny Jedi Knights are braced for battle on a tabletop. A Bruce Lee action figure gazes serenely over a sprawl of Spider-man figurines, Transformers and sketches. On a packed bookshelf, texts on design compete for space with comic books and boxes of action figures.

"I collect more *Star Wars* figures than anything," explains Cho, whose Master of Design thesis show, *Designing a Better Joe: A Pleasure Based Approach to Action Figure Design*, will be on display May 18 - 29 at the FAB Gallery.

Cho's feeling about action toys is that the industry has gone stale. With few

exceptions, manufacturers are stuck in a rut of buying merchandising licenses on characters that are either time-worn or unproven in the marketplace. What's more, he says, the industry risks losing a new and growing demographic - adults - if it fails to change its ways.

He picks a couple of obvious examples of toys adults might buy, but not for long. Cho points to store shelves still overstocked with Hulk action figures produced after the comic character's big-screen debut last year as a poor marketing decision. And while Cho himself has bought dozens of Spider-man action figures, each iteration boasting more articulated joints than previous efforts, they're all the same character.

Adrien Cho inspects one of his new action figures, the prickly and sinister-looking CID. Cho's own line of action figures, which form the basis of his thesis show for his masters degree in design, will be on display at the FAB Gallery May 18 - 29.



"I'm getting disinterested," said Cho, who earned an engineering degree at the U of A in 1998. "I go, 'OK, this is my 50th Spider-man and each one that comes out is better than the last, but...'"

Frustrated by the state of the art, Cho decided to study the characteristics of successful action figures, find out what is pleasurable about them, and imbue those characteristics into action figures of his own making - a sort of reverse-engineering of the entire process.

The final products are original toys with strong characters that at least equal anything on the market today. One character, named Carlos, is a good-guy warrior of Chilean descent, with a bit of Che Guevara, based on a Chilean friend of Cho's whose name just happens to be Carlos.

"When I was a kid, we never had any heroes who were, you know, Chilean or

anything," he said. Cho produces another figure, an African American with Maori-inspired tattoos and a menacing look.

Another resembles an Asian peasant farmer - until it whips open its cloak to reveal a deadly double-pointed blade, a belt adorned with skulls, and maggots dining on the figure's decomposing face. Cho's showstopper, a prickly character named CID, looks like Stephen King's *It* character crossed with *Star Trek*'s Borg with a little bit of *The Matrix* effects thrown in for good measure. He isn't cuddly, but a good toy doesn't have to be, says Cho. It just needs to bring you pleasure.

"He looks like a vicious character. Villains are the best to design. They have all the vile, disgusting characteristics of human nature."

And really, what more could you want in a toy? ■

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